THURSDAY
March 9, 2023

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
14 Pages ₹ 6.00

THE HINDU

www.thehindu.com

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

FOLLOW US
facebook.com/thehindu
twitter.com/the_hindu
instagram.com/the_hindu

Vol.54 • No.57

Printed at » Chennai » Coimbatore » Bengaluru » Hyderabad » Madurai » Noida » Visakhapatnam » Thiruvananthapuram » Kochi » Vijayawada » Mangaluru » Tiruchirapalli » Kolkata » Hubballi » Mohali » Malappuram » Mumbai » Tirupati » Lucknow » Cuttack » Patna

BYJU'S EXAM PREP | IAS
Comprehensive Preparation Program for UPSC CSE

Ace UPSC CSE 2024 With Our
LIVE Online Classroom Program

Learn from the experts from the comfort of your home

850+ Hours of LIVE Classes
1000+ Hours of Recorded Lectures
1-on-1 Mentorship Support
Regular Practice & Testing

To know more, give a missed call on +91 9513131242

Saha sworn in as Tripura CM, TIPRA warms to BJP

Shah promised constitutional solution to all issues facing the 14 lakh indigenous people, says TIPRA chief Pradyot Debbarma. Party may extend issue-based support to BJP-led govt. in State

The Hindu Bureau
AGARTALA/GUWAHATI

BJP leader Manik Saha on Wednesday took charge as the Chief Minister of Tripura for the second time, but the spotlight was on the TIPRA Motha, a new regional party.

Soon after Governor Satyadeo Narayan Arya administered the oath of office and secrecy to Mr. Saha and eight more MLAs as Ministers in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah held a marathon meeting with TIPRA Motha chief Pradyot Bikram Manikya Debbarma and 13 MLAs of his party.

The meeting triggered speculation about the possibility of the TIPRA Motha joining the BJP-Indigenous People's Front of Tripura (IPFT) alliance government; more so, after three Cabinet berths were left vacant.

Back at the helm: Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Manik Saha at his swearing-in ceremony in Agartala on Wednesday. PTI

The possible strength of the Council of Ministers in the 60-member House is 12.

Mr. Debbarma later said Mr. Shah assured the party of a constitutional solution to all issues related to the 14 lakh Tiprasa (indigenous) people of the State.

"We have been assured that an interlocutor will be appointed within a timeframe for achieving a solution to all the problems relating to the sons of the soil," he said.

The TIPRA Motha would not be part of the government now but may extend issue-based support and consider accepting "posts in the government" if the talks with the interlocutor go in the right direction, he added.

The BJP-IPFT combine won 33 seats, 11 fewer than in 2018. In a move to make the government durable, the BJP leadership has made attempts over the past three days to get support from the TIPRA Motha.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 8

NEARBY

Govt. land for BSNL towers in remote villages

BENGALURU
The State Cabinet has decided to grant 2,000 sq.ft land to Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) for establishing towers and providing internet connectivity in remote villages of Karnataka under the '4G Saturation Project' of the Centre. » Page 4

II PU exam from today

BENGALURU
Beginning on Thursday, 7,26,195 students from 5,716 colleges from across the State will be writing their II PU examination. The examination will go on until March 29.
» Page 2

Money laundering laws will now cover cryptocurrency trade

Reuters
MUMBAI

The move will give the Centre greater authority in monitoring inter-country crypto transfer.

India's money laundering laws will apply to trade in cryptocurrencies, the Finance Ministry said in a notification dated March 7.

The exchange between virtual digital assets and fiat currencies, the exchange between one or more forms of virtual digital assets and the transfer of digital assets will be covered under money laundering laws, the notification said.

The safekeeping or administration of virtual digital assets and the participation in financial services related to the offer and sale of virtual digital assets will also be covered, the notification added.

India is yet to finalise laws and regulations surrounding cryptocurrencies even as the Reserve Bank of India has cautioned against their use multiple times. The RBI has said that cryptocurrencies should be banned as they are akin to a Ponzi scheme.

Extending money laundering rules to cryptocurrencies will give the government greater authority in monitoring the transfer of these assets abroad.

As part of its leadership of the G-20 forum, the government has been pushing for a wider global agreement on dealing with the risks brought on by cryptocurrencies.

ED summons Telangana CM's daughter in Delhi excise policy case

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

The Enforcement Directorate has summoned Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao's daughter and legislator K. Kavitha for questioning in connection with the alleged irregularities in the now-scrapped Delhi excise policy.

Ms. Kavitha, a Bharat Rashtra Samiti MLC, was directed to be present at the ED headquarters in New Delhi on Thursday.

In a late-night post on her official Twitter handle, she said she would appear before the Enforcement Directorate in New Delhi on March 11.

Earlier, she said she would seek a legal opinion on the date [first given by the ED] as she had already scheduled her hunger strike at Jantar Mantar in the capital on Friday and other appointments.

She recalled that Bharat Jagruthi, a socio-political organisation led by her, Opposition parties and women's organisations from across the country would participate in the daylong hunger strike at Jantar Mantar demanding that the BJP government at the Centre pass the Women's Reservation Bill.

Ms. Kavitha said she would fully cooperate with the probe agencies as a law-abiding citizen. She reminded the ruling party at the Centre that these tactics of intimidation against the fight of their leader and Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao and against the entire Bharat Rashtra Samiti party would not deter them.

Australian Prime Minister hails Gandhian philosophy

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese on Wednesday paid rich tributes to Mahatma Gandhi during his visit to the Sabarmati Ashram in Ahmedabad and played Holi at the Raj Bhavan on the first day of his maiden trip to India.

Mr. Albanese, who is on a four-day trip to India, was welcomed at the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Airport by Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel.

Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese at the Sabarmati Ashram. PTI

In the visitor's book at the Ashram, the Australian leader wrote that Mahatma Gandhi's values and philosophy still inspired the entire world.

"It is a great honour to visit, to pay homage to Mahatma Gandhi whose philosophy and life values continue to inspire the world today. We have much to learn from his example," he wrote.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 8

Everest
Garam Masala
Makes my home food super tasty
EVEREST
Garam Masala
Mixed Masala Powder
I'm a big fan of my home food because it is always super tasty.
Thanks to the unique blend of 13 choicest spices,
Everest Garam Masala always adds a delightful punch of great taste.
Try it, and make your home food super tasty too!
Best in Taste
EVEREST
Follow us on For more exciting recipes log on to www.everestfoods.com
Situations/Everest/2023 Eng

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

15 The percentage of pilots who are women, of the 1,825 pilots in Air India. Over 40% of Air India's workforce are women, with 275 women pilots, making it the airline with the largest number of female pilots. Since March 1, 90 all-women crew flights and carriers have been operating on international and domestic routes, according to a release by the Tata Group-owned airline to mark International Women's Day. PTI

6.8 In percentage, the expected growth of Maharashtra's economy in 2022-23 as against the projected growth of the Indian economy by 7%, according to the State's annual economic survey report. The projected growth showed a decline compared to the 9.1% growth in 2021-22. The survey report for 2022-23 was tabled by Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis who is also the Finance Minister. PTI

40 The percentage of female representation pledged by the World Athletics (WA) in its council (its all-powerful decision making body), and a woman vice president this year in a significant step towards gender equity in the sport. On account of International Women's Day, WA aims to increase the number of female coaches at the World Championships to at least 20% by the 2025 edition in Tokyo. PTI

26 The years after which Japan's big companies are expected to deliver the largest pay rise in the "shunto" wage negotiations, offering to lift the country from the doldrums. It will test Prime Minister Fumio Kishida's flagship "new capitalism" policy that aims to distribute wealth among households by prodding firms to hike pay. But the expected average salary hike of 3% will likely include only a 1% increase in base pay. Reuters

40 In percentage, the projected increase in the total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in India by 2030, according to a study conducted by IMF economists Margaux MacDonald and John Spray. The study has also stated that combining renewable subsidies and higher tariffs on coal would lower emissions by one-third in India by 2030, compared to the current policies. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

Follow us facebook.com/thehindu twitter.com/the_hindu instagram.com/the_hindu

How can you know if your child has autism?

Is autism a disease or a neurodevelopmental condition? What are the three main differences which characterise autism? Why have there been allegations that autism in girl children has been going undiagnosed? How can parents and teachers help in supporting children with autism?

EXPLAINER

Vibha Krishnamurthy

In a park, a group of three-year-old children are playing together, with their mothers watching. One toddler, Arun, is off to the side, looking up at the trees and squinting at the light. His mother calls several times but he does not respond. He doesn't seem interested in the other children or their toys. He holds a little car tightly in his hand. Sometimes he says a few words, but they have no connection to what the other children are talking about. While Arun's mother has been worried about him, her concerns were often dismissed by family and professionals who don't know the early signs of autism. Early identification of autism is important because it leads to early intervention that could change the life of an autistic child.

What is autism?

Autism is a neurodevelopmental condition, not a disease. There is a difference in how the brains of autistic children are wired. Autism is not uncommon – recent statistics from the U.S. show a prevalence of 1 in 44, while Indian data suggests 1 in 100. The diagnosis is often made by a paediatrician or a psychiatrist with experience in seeing children with autism. We don't fully understand the causes of autism but there is a strong genetic component. If one child has autism in the family, the sibling also has a higher chance of being on the autism spectrum.

How to identify autism?

Autism is characterised by three kinds of differences. The first two are communication and social interactions, which often go together. Children with autism may struggle to communicate with others who are not like them. For example, they may not use pointing, gestures or words to communicate, and instead may pull their parents towards what they need. They may use words out of context and sometimes repeat words.

That autistic children interact differently in social settings becomes evident when they play. Games that require turn taking, like hide and seek, are often not intuitive for them. While most children begin pretend play, like pretending to feed a doll, between one and two years of age, autistic children prefer blocks, puzzles or mechanical toys instead.

The other main characteristic of children with autism is that they have a focused area of interest or a repetitive activity they enjoy. A child may focus on cars, aeroplanes or dinosaurs over all other activities or topics. When playing with objects, they may choose to line them up or stack them instead of playing a pretend game with them. They may also have physically repetitive movements of the body, like hand-flapping or spinning, particularly when they are excited or anxious.

Autism occurs as a spectrum – every child is different and looks different as they grow. There have been increasing concerns that girls with autism are being underdiagnosed. Kanika, a 12-year-old girl in class VI, is doing well academically but is very quiet in class. She often does not understand the gossip her classmates share or jokes the other girls make, but pretends to laugh and be interested. Her main passion is a comic character that she draws repeatedly and skillfully. She is intensely anxious in social settings. She has the same social and communication challenges but she is unlikely to get a diagnosis. Kanika's differences are not 'typical' of what is described as autism in boys. A skilled professional can identify Kanika's autism and support her, and her family, through her challenges at school and at home.

How do we help an autistic child?

Like all of us, children with autism have strengths. They are often visual learners, good with puzzles, visual memory, and visual problem-solving (including visual games like chess). They have a strong sense of justice and honesty, which often means they have a harder time understanding certain social norms. Contrary to popular belief, three-fourths of autistic individuals have normal intelligence. Since autism is not a disease, it is not helpful to speak of a cure. Supporting children with autism involves educating them and people in their environment. There are several ways to teach children with autism; many involve coaching parents and teachers on how to connect and communicate with their child.

ISTOCKPHOTO

For example, Arun's family can be taught to observe him, note what he is interested in (cars and puzzles), and use this as an opportunity to engage with him. Getting professional guidance to teach a child with autism is not always easy. It is important to explore who is available as a resource in each community. Some communities may have occupational therapists and speech therapists who are familiar with working with children with autism. In others, it may be a teacher, a special educator or an experienced parent. While it is important for the child to learn to connect, it is equally important for family members, teachers, doctors, and other children to understand the autistic individual. Children with autism have the same right to play, learn, and participate in the community as all children.

A lot of our understanding of autism today comes from autistic self-advocates – children and adults with autism who have spoken about their own experiences, and even researched the subject. Most of their difficult experiences have been related not to their autism but the lack of awareness, understanding, and empathy from others. If we want autistic children to fully achieve their potential, we need to understand that we have all kinds of minds in the world, and every one of them belongs here.

Vibha Krishnamurthy is a developmental paediatrician and the founder of Ummeed Child Development Centre in Mumbai.

THE GIST

- Autism is a neurodevelopmental condition, not a disease. There is a difference in how the brains of autistic children are wired.
- Autism is characterised by three kinds of differences. The first two are communication and social interactions, which often go together. The other main characteristic of children with autism is that they have a focused area of interest or a repetitive activity they enjoy.
- Supporting children with autism involves educating them and people in their environment. There are several ways to teach children with autism; many involve coaching parents and teachers on how to connect and communicate with their child.

This is the first of a series of articles on autism and related issues

Will artificial intelligence lead to job displacements?

How are artificial general and narrow intelligence systems different from each other? What are the possible ways in which AI can disrupt jobs and industries?

CACHE

Radhika Chhabra

AI is the digital distillation of a technological revolution that is facilitating the long-overdue evolution of the human mind. AI, as fear-inducing as anything disruptive and new is, can trigger new avenues of intelligence in human minds. These new avenues enable us to understand and attack society's greatest challenges today.

AGI and ANI

AI can traditionally be divided into AGI and ANI. Theorists and AI experts call this Artificial General Intelligence (AGI) and Artificial Narrow Intelligence (ANI). AGI is designed to be capable of performing a wide variety of intellectual tasks, while ANI is designed to perform a single or a narrow set of related tasks.

AGI is designed to be flexible and adaptable, capable of handling new tasks and situations without human intervention. This is often referred to as 'unsupervised learning' which means that the AI system can learn from data without being explicitly programmed to do so. The difference between AGI and ANI lies in their scope of intelligence and their ability to generalise knowledge across different contexts. AGI is primarily driven by a variety of technical aspects that bear deeper discussion. One such aspect is the sophistication of AGI's cognitive architecture – the development of a system that includes perception, attention, memory, language, and reasoning. AGI is envisioned as having the ability to perform any intellectual task that a human can do, and to apply knowledge learned in one context to new, unfamiliar situations. AGI is what you would consider the antagonist in pop-culture movies where computers 'take over' civilisation and enslave humans. The fear emanates from the very real possibility that an AGI system continues to learn and make decisions that even its creators cannot possibly predict. ANI, by contrast, is designed to perform a specific task and is not capable of generalising knowledge or skills to new situations outside of its programmed domain. While, AGI is still largely in the realm of theoretical research and development, ANI is already in widespread use in a variety of industries and applications.

The future of jobs

ANI products like ChatGPT have existed for some time now but have recently taken the world by storm. Other revolutionary technologies such as Q-Chat, Dall E-2, Synthesia are also on the rise to promote art and academia through fun and adaptive chat experiences. ChatGPT is a chat bot, which allows users to engage in a conversation about a variety of topics to which it generates human-like responses in text form.

ChatGPT, and similar solutions, are particularly adept at automating routine and repetitive tasks, such as data entry and customer service, which could perhaps replace low-skill level workers. Many experts believe that AI will transform industries in significant ways, creating new opportunities for growth and innovation. In industries like healthcare, for example, AI can optimise transportation networks, develop new materials, and even simplify manufacturing processes.

AI can very well lead to the displacement of some jobs. Buzzfeed layoffs were almost at the same time during its new deal with OpenAI to leverage ChatGPT for its articles. However, we should not forget that disruptive tech also creates new jobs and skill sets. AI may create demand for workers with expertise in machine learning, data science and natural language processing. It may also create opportunities for workers to specialise in areas where human judgement and creativity will remain critical. The impact of AI on jobs and industries is likely to be uneven, with some industries experiencing greater disruption than others. But this can be said for nearly every disruptive technology that was introduced in legacy business sectors. The printing press and the telephone created vastly more opportunities in the long term. In the case of AI, workers in low-wage and low-skill occupations may be more vulnerable to job loss than those in high-wage and high-skill occupations.

Overall, while there is still much uncertainty about the impact of AI on jobs, it is evident that the technology is likely to have significant implications on the future of work.

Radhika Chhabra is a consultant and all views expressed are personal

THE GIST

- AI can traditionally be divided into AGI and ANI. Theorists and AI experts call this Artificial General Intelligence (AGI) and Artificial Narrow Intelligence (ANI).
- AGI is deigned to be flexible and adaptable, capable of handling new tasks and situations without human intervention. ANI, by contrast, is designed to perform a specific task and is not capable of generalising knowledge or skills to new situations outside of its programmed domain.
- AI can very well lead to the displacement of some jobs. However, we should not forget that disruptive tech also creates new jobs and skill sets. AI may create demand for workers with expertise in machine learning, data science and natural language processing.

Six-year norm for class 1: Parents of pre-kg students left in the lurch

School managements are asking pre-kg students to repeat a year to abide by the New Education Policy and RTE rules

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

As the admission season approaches, parents of children who are currently in pre-kindergarten classes are up in arms as school managements are asking them to repeat a year to abide by the New Education Policy (NEP) and Right To Education (RTE) rules. The rules say that to get admissions for class 1, students have to be of six years and hence, any student who falls short of the age is being asked to repeat a grade.

Any student who falls short of the age is being asked to repeat a grade. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The rule will be applicable to the students who will be joining class 1 from 2025 onwards. "The school is saying that as of June 1 2026, my son should be six years old to join first grade. They are not allowing even one day delay (for those who have their birthdays in June itself). The school had a meeting, but it was inconclusive. I think my son should mostly repeat pre-kg now. There is no clarity yet," said Sudha P., a resident of Chikkalasandra.

The parents also questioned why schools accepted admissions for children who were under the prescribed age for pre-kg, if they knew a rule like this existed. As the fee structure for pre-kg is also similar to that of kindergarten classes, parents are also worried about double expenditure.

"We are demanding that they exempt the children who've already taken admission, and implement it from next year. The school is not agreeing and is blaming the government, whereas the government has left it to schools to decide if a grade should be repeated. It is a waste of a whole academic year and the fees we paid," said Chaitra Prakash, a parent from Subramanyapura.

A few parents also shared concerns about how the students who have to repeat a grade will feel left back when their friends who are above the age bar proceed to the next class. "Children these days are very sensitive and observant. Making them repeat just because they fall short a few days or a few weeks does not make much sense," a parent remarked.

However, government officials are firm on the decision that students should be of four years of age when they join LKG, five years when they join UKG and six years old by the time they start first grade. "The rules in the RTE clearly says that they should begin LKG at four years of age. As the decision was taken mid year, the government has provided relaxation to a few batches until 2025. Pre-kg is neither a formal class nor regulated by us. Even LKG and UKG is informal, but registered," said Vishal R., Commissioner, Department of Public Instruction.

He also confirmed that there is no compulsion for parents to make their children repeat pre-kg, LKG or UKG and instead make them join for the eligible grade the next academic year.

Over 7.2 lakh students to write II PU exam beginning today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Beginning on Thursday, 7,26,195 students from 5,716 colleges from across the State will be writing their II PU examination this year.

The examination will go on across arts, commerce and science streams until March 29 in 1,109 examination centres from 10.15 a.m. to 1.30 p.m.

A total of 2,34,815 (1,27,854 male and 1,06,961 female) students from arts stream, 2,47,260 (1,23,425 male and 1,23,835 female) students from commerce, and 2,44,120 (1,12,419 male and 1,31,701 female) students from science stream will be writing the exam.

Number of students taking II PU exam

Combination	Male	Female	Total
Arts	1,27,854	1,06,961	2,34,815
Commerce	1,23,425	1,23,835	2,47,260
Science	1,12,419	1,31,701	2,44,120
Total	3,63,698	3,62,497	7,26,195

Out of over 7 lakh students who have registered, 6,29,760 are regular candidates while 25,847 are private candidates. A total of 70,588 repeaters (43,798 male and 26,790 female) will also be giving their exams this year, the Karnataka School Examination and Assessment Board (KSEAB) said on Wednesday.

To ensure that the examination goes on without hiccups, the KSEAB has appointed 1,109 answer book custodians, and 2,373 special invigilation squads. There are also 64 district squads formed which will comprise a principal, P.E. lecturer and one woman lecturer while 525 taluk-level squads have also been formed with one principal and two lecturers in every squad.

Cong. calls off two-hour bandh plan

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In the wake of II PU and other school examination, the Congress has withdrawn its State-wide two-hour bandh on Thursday.

KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar, in a press statement, said the bandh has been withdrawn in order to avoid inconvenience to students writing their examination in the State.

The KPCC chief said the decision to withdraw the bandh was taken following talks with senior leaders of the party.

Keeping in mind the interest of students and parents, the bandh has been called off, he said.

Protest against BJP

The Congress had decided to hold the two-hour bandh between 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Thursday to create awareness about the "corrupt" BJP government among the public.

Caretaker held for theft

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Rajarajeshwarinagar police on Wednesday arrested a 34-year-old caretaker who had allegedly stolen valuables worth ₹10 lakh from the apartment where he worked.

The accused Basavaraj Dyamanna Vaddara from Haveri was arrested based on a complaint filed by the owner of the apartment Sneha Kulkarni.

According to her complaint, she said she had availed the service of a caretaker from a city-based caregiver service for her ailing father-in-law. Basavaraj worked for a few days and later left for his home town for a two-day holiday and did not return. The family contacted the agency to get a replacement and later found the valuables from the house missing.

Based on the complaint, the police tracked down the accused.

CCB arrests gang for cheating people

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Central Crime Branch officials on Wednesday arrested eight men who were cheating gullible people with the rice pulling scam.

The accused would lure people in the name of rice pulling machines which are believed to detect precious metal, enabling one to make easy money. They would give them demo of a vessel with special powers, which can pull rice and precious metals. The gang would convince people that keeping the vessel at home would attract positive vibes and prosperity and sell it for lakhs of rupees.

Based on a complaint, a team of police tracked down the accused and arrested Rajesh, 36, who was leading the gang and his associates Mohammed Ghouse Pasha, 52, Stephen, 38, Sahil, 35, Srinivas, 35, Vikas Dharamarao, 27, Kumar Shivalingappa, 29 and Srinivasan Vijayan, 42. The police have also recovered ₹35,30,000 from them and a case has been registered.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General public is hereby notified that, my client **Sri.H.T.Jagadish S/o Sri.Thimmaiah** has entered into sale agreement dated 13.02.2023 in respect of Site No.21, V.P.Katha No.95, Sy No.48/2, Municipal No.21, Chikkallasandra Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, presently comes under the administrative limits of BBMP, Padamanabhanagara Ward No.55, New Ward No.182, Municipal No.21, PID No.55-66-21, 1st Cross, Munireddy Layout, Chikkallasandra Revenue Layout, Bengaluru, bounded on the East by: Site bearing No.22,West by Site bearing No.20, North by Road, South By: Site bearing Nos: 31 & 30, measuring East to West 40 feet, North to South 50 feet, totally measuring 2000 Sq.ft, with its owner namely **Sri.K.Mohan Babu S/o late L.Krishnama Naidu** for a valuable sale consideration.

In view of the above, it is hereby notified that, claims of ownership or such other claims if any have in respect of the schedule property, the same may be notified to the address given below in writing together with supporting documents within a period of **7 (seven) days** from the date of this notification. If no valid claims or objections are received within stipulated

period, my client shall be at liberty to proceed with and complete the process of sale in respect of the aforesaid property. Claims/ objections if any received on expiry of the stipulated period will be ignored.

A.T. MANOHAR, Advocate
No.55, 'SAISADANA', 13th'A'Cross, Sarakki Gate, 1st Phase, J.P.Nagar, Bangalore-78. Cell : 9902936363

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
MINOR IRRIGATION & GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation Division, Hassan
IFT No.41/2022-23, Dated: 08.03.2023

Short term tenders are invited from eligible Agencies in one & two cover system through e-procurement portal of GOK (website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in) for Hassan District works as per SBD-KW- 1 & 4 Maximum Amount put to tender is Rs.168.65 lakhs & Minimum amount put to tender Rs.1.47 lakhs.The last date of receipt of tender is 15-03-2023 upto 17.00 hours. Further detail can be had from E-Proc portal and the above office during office working hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation Division, Hassan.
ಖಾಸಾಸಂ೦ಇ/ಹಿಸನ/ಹಾಸನ/ಎಂಸಿಎ/1213/2022–23

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
DISTRICT URBAN DEVELOPMENT CELL
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER AND DISTRICT MAGISTRATE,BELAGAVI DISTRICT, BELAGAVI
Telephone no:0831-2407279 E-Mail:dudc_bgm@yahoo.co.in
No: BGM/DUDC/5/CR-25/2021-22 Dated: 08-03-2023
Short Term Tender Notification

The Executive Engineer, District Urban Develoment Cell, Belagavi District invites tender in two cover system for Sl.no.01 to 03 using KW-3 & 4 Documents and one cover system for Sl.no.04 & 5 using KW-2 Document for Belagavi District under Chief Minister Amrut Nagarothana (Municipality) Phase-4 Project (24.10%, 7.25%, 5% & Incentive Grant) works as detailed below:- **(Rs. in Lakhs)**

Sl. No	Description of works	Amount Put to Tender (Excluding GST)	Earnest Money Deposit
1	Construction of Road, Drain and Toilet Works in TMC GHATAPRABHA limits (Tender No. DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT145487/Call-2).	131.87	1.98
2	Construction of Road, Drain, Pour Karmikas Rest House, Toilet and Pipeline Works in Town Municipal Council MUGALKHOD limits. (Tender No. DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT143083/Call-2)	142.36	2.14
3	Construction of Road and Drain Works in Town Panchayat RAIBAG limits. (Tender No. DMA/2022-23/RD/WORK_INDENT143111/Call-2)	66.33	1.33
4	Electric Supply & Street Lights installation Works in Town Municipal Council UGARKHURD limits (Tender No. DMA/2022-23/EL/WORK_INDENT145839/Call-2)	23.39	0.50
5	Construction of Road, RO Water Plant, Shed in Burial Ground and Other Works in Town Panchayat RAIBAG limits (Incentive Grant) (Tender No. DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT145687/Call-2)	37.79	0.76

Contractors can download and submit the tenders through e-Procurement portal at www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically. Calendar of Events and other information are as follows:

Last Date for submission of tenders	15-03-2023 up to 17.00 hrs.
Date of Opening of Tenders (Technical Bids)	16-03-2023 at 17.01 hrs.

Postponement of calendar of events (if any) is only through e-Procurement portal and will not be published in newspapers.

Sd/-EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-1979/KSMCA/2022-23 **Distirct Urban Development Cell, Belagavi**

Karnataka Government
Deputy Commissioners Office
District Urban Development Cell, Belgavi
S.No:BGM:DUDC:06/CR/2022-23 Date:06.03.2023
Tender Notification

Appointment of SWM Expert on Outsource basis from District Urban Development Cell ,Belagavi for DUDC Belagavi and Belagavi Corporation through agencies selected by through e-procurement portal (https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in) by tender process as under.
Tender No: DUDC/BELAGAVI/SWMEXPERT/2022-23
Estimated Amount: Rs.72.00 Lakhs, EMD Amount: Rs.1.44 Lakhs, Last date for tender submission:17.03.2023 , 5:30 PM
For more information see tender document or contact this office. Postponement of Calendar of events (if any) is only through e-procurement portal and will not be published in news paper.

Sd/-Project Director
DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-1978/KSMCA/2022-23 **District Urban Development Cell ,Belagavi**

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
Public Works Department
Executive Engineer PWD Division Chikkodi
No/PWD/CKD DIV/AE-3/TENDER/2022-23/7867 DATE: 07/03/2023
Short Term E-Tender Notification

Executive Engineer PWD Division Chikkodi has invited item wise short term e-Tenders from Eligible registered contractors for the works coming under the jurisdiction of Chikodi PWD Division 5 works under head of account 5054-MDR Improvements, 2 work under head of account 3054-SH Maintenance, 1 work under head of account 3054-SH Bridge Maintenance and 1 work under head of account 8443-Deposit Contribution, Totally 9 No. of works. Amount put to tender is minimum of Rs. 7.00 Lakhs and maximum of Rs. 160.00 Lakhs.

Calendar of events for the work at Sl No. 1 to 3 & 5 :

1)Pre-bid meeting date: 09-03-2023 at 11.00 AM, at The O/o the under signed. 2)Last date for queries & clarifications : 10-03-2023 up to 5.30 PM, 3)Last Date of Receipt of Bids : 14-03-2023 up to 5.00 PM, 4)Date of opening of Financial bids (Single Cover System): 16-03-2023 at 4.30 PM, 5)Date of opening of Technical bids (Two Cover System): 16-03-2023 at 4.30 PM, 6)Date of opening of Financial bids (Two Cover System): "after approval of Technical bids"

Calendar of events for the work at Sl No. 4 & 6 to 9:

1)Pre-bid meeting date: 10-03-2023 at 11.00 AM, at The O/o the under signed. 2)Last date for queries & clarifications : 13-03-2023 up to 5.30 PM, 3)Last Date of Receipt of Bids : 15-03-2023 up to 5.00 PM, 4)Date of opening of Financial bids (Single Cover System): 17-03-2023 at 4.30 PM, 5)Date of opening of Technical bids (Two Cover System): 17-03-2023 at 4.30 PM, 6)Date of opening of Financial bids (Two Cover System): "after approval of Technical bids"

For more information & forms of tender can be downloaded from www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in & departmental web site www.kpwd.gov.in. Further details can be collected from O/o Executive Engineer Public Works Dept.,Division Chikkodi during working hours.

Sd/-Executive Engineer
DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-1975/KSMCA/2022-23 **PWD Division Chikodi.**

CLASSIFIEDS MART

TO ADVERTISE VISIT
www.thehinduads.com
Bengaluru: 98455 29981 ■ 080-22071826
Mangaluru: 0824-2417575 ■ 2417580
Hubballi: 0836-2338600 ■ 2335700

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, THIRUKONDA Abishek, S/o Thirukonda Gopi Kannan, R/a No.B-420, 3rd Floor, B Block, Ittina Mahavir, Neeladri Road, Electronic City Phase-I, Bengaluru-560100 have changed my name to Thirukonda Abhishek vide affidavit dt: 06.03.2023 sworn before Notary S.I.Balaguru, B'lore

I, THASIN Aleem, R/a No.922,1 st Floor, 12th Cross, 3rd Block, HBR Layout, Bangalore-560043 have changed my name to Baziga Thasin vide affidavit dt: 08.03.2023 sworn before Notary K.V.Mani, B'luru.

EDUCATIONAL

GENERAL

AKS IAS®
Foundation For Competitive Exams
UPSC/IAS 2024
PRELIMS CUM MAINS
NEW BATCH
ADMISSIONS OPEN
C YASWANTH REDDY IAS | AIR - 15
TIRUMANI SRI POOJA IAS | AIR - 62
www.aksias.com
8448449709

NAGARJUNA COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY
An Autonomous College under VTU
Venkatagiri kote Devanahalli, Bengaluru- 562 164
Website : www.ncet.co.in | Phone : 080 67462700/9035264946

Ref. No. NCET/2022-23/185 Date: 08 MARCH 2023

Tender Notification
(Purpose: VTU YUVOTSAVA 2023)

1. The tenders are invited from eligible tenderers, registered contractor by the Principal, Nagarjuna College of Engineering and Technology, Venkatagiri kote, Devanahalli, Bengaluru- 562 164, for the works detailed in the table below under standard tender document procedure in K/W format. (The tenderers who have executed similar nature of single work costing not less than 50% of amount put to tender, shall only apply for these works).
2. If the tender is cancelled due to unforeseen reasons the cost of the tender forms will not be refunded.
3. Principal, Nagarjuna College of Engineering and Technology, Bengaluru reserves the right to accept/reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons.
4. Further details please visit website http//www.ncet.co.in/tenders.

Sl. No	Name of Work	Approximate value of the work (in Rs.)	K/W Format	Period of Completion
1.	Supply & installation of event stage materials Shamiyana for VTU Yuvotsava Programme events.	12 Lakhs	K/W-1	27-03-2023
2.	Sound & lighting System	8 Lakhs		
3.	Transportation services from various parts of Bengaluru to Nagarjuna College of Engineering and Technology	3 Lakhs	K/W-1	27-03-2023
4.	Catering Services	13 Lakhs	K/W-1	For 3 days
5.	Accommodation Facility	6 Lakhs	K/W-1	27-03-2023

Important Dates:

Date of available of Tenders	10-03-2023
Last Date for receipt of receiving Sealed Tenders	18-03-2023 Upto 3.00 P.M.
Opening of Tender Document	20-03-2023 at 10.30 A.M.

Sd/-
Principal
NCET, Bengaluru

Karnataka Public Work Department
(A Government of KarnatakaEnterprises) O/O Executive Engineer PWD Division, Hosapete, Dist:-Vijayanagara
No:EE/PWD/Dn/Hosapete/TND/2022-23/3699/ Date: 07/03/2023.
Short Term E-Tender Notification

Tenders are invited by undersigned on behalf of the Governor of Karnataka, PWD Division Hosapete, Vijayanagara Dist, for the work notified in the statement below. The bid shall be in Two Cover system namely technical bid and financial bid through Electronic system containing details of EMD through website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in

Sl. No	Work Indent No	Estimate Cost (Rs in Lakhs)	Sl. No	Work Indent No	Estimate Cost (Rs in Lakhs)
	RESERVE FOR SC CATOGERY				
1	KPWD/2022-23/BD/WORK_INDENT165076	5.00	2	KPWD/2022-23/BD/WORK_INDENT166201	6.01
	RESERVE FOR ST CATOGERY				
3	KPWD/2022-23/BD/WORK_INDENT166657	25.00			
	GENERAL WORKS				
4	KPWD/2021-22/BD/WORK_INDENT138165	1.50	9	KPWD/2022-23/BD/WORK_INDENT166988	10.00
5	KPWD/2021-22/BD/WORK_INDENT138164	4.00	10	KPWD/2022-23/BD/WORK_INDENT166200	20.00
6	KPWD/2022-23/BD/WORK_INDENT167079	6.00	11	KPWD/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT164572	261.22
7	KPWD/2022-23/BD/WORK_INDENT167057	8.80	12	KPWD/2022-23/RD/WORK_INDENT166516	490.00
8	KPWD/2022-23/BD/WORK_INDENT167038	6.20			

1. Quarries of Tender On: **As Per E-procurement Portal.** 2. Last Date of Tender Submission On: **15.03.2023 @ 16.00 Hours.** 3. Tender Opening date On: **16.03.2023 @ 16.30 Hours.** 4. Financial Bid Opening Date: **As Per E-procurement Portal.**
Note: 1.Any Changes Either in Tender date or any other condition , Tenderers can view in E-procurement Portal.
DIPR/Vijayanagar/420/KSMCA/2022-23 Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD Division Hosapete, Vijayanagara District.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The next phase: One of the stalls set up as a part of the SARAS Fair-2021, where Self Help Groups (SHGs) from different States participated and sold their products in Hyderabad in 2021. FILE PHOTO

The different faces of the Indian women's movement and where it stands now

The key is to not put all eggs in the single basket of state-led programmes and to ensure that other spaces for women's activism are preserved

Sonalde Desai

The vibrancy of the Indian women's movement is acknowledged worldwide. However, its gradual transformation has received much less attention. Over the years, its thrust has moved from serving as the beacon for the nationalist movement to a rights-based civil society movement to a state-led movement for economic empowerment. What does this portend for the future of the Indian women's movement?

Three phases

"When woman, whom we call abala (weak), become sabala (strong), all those who are helpless will become powerful." This clarion call by Mahatma Gandhi to the 1936 All India Women's Conference was the hallmark of a nationalist movement that relied on women to serve as its face. The political history of the Indian women's movement is written in photographs of wave after wave of women satyagrahis being arrested during the salt satyagraha and the Quit India movement; Mrinal Gore and her women protesters carrying rolling pins and protesting against the price rise; Chipko, one of the earliest ecofeminist movements in the world broadcasting pictures of women clinging to trees to protest logging; and, Nirbhaya, Shaheen Bagh and Sabrimala protests of more recent years. Some were overtly aligned with political parties, others sought to reshape political discourse but were not affiliated with party politics.

However, these images of protest are not the only ones that characterise women's activism. While public mobilisation is highly visible, the quiet revolution of the 1970s probably did as much to enhance attention to women's specific needs as street protests. For example, the Self Employed Women's Association began to unionise women in the informal sector leading the advocacy for reforms in legal and social protection for women workers; feminist advocacy highlighting sex-selective abortion and discrimination in inheritance patterns led to legal reforms; and women's formal and informal collectives have worked hard to reform and implement laws against sexual harassment in the workforce and in public spaces. Arguably, the greatest success of this mobilisation came when the 73rd Amendment to the Constitution was passed, reserving one-third of seats in panchayat and leadership positions in local bodies for women.

The latest epoch in women's activism is distinct from the strident politics of protest and quietly organised rights-based movements. The government has invested heavily in building and supporting Self Help Groups (SHGs). The Economic Survey notes that today there are about 1.2 crore SHGs in India, most of which are all-women. These SHGs are typically supported and mentored by Community Resource Persons paid by the state. SHGs function mainly as thrift and credit institutions, where members deposit small amounts of savings per month and can borrow in an emergency. In some cases, they also support entrepreneurship through bank loans.

These different strands of the women's movement – political movements, grassroots organising for legal and policy reforms, and state-led organisations for economic empowerment – each have addressed various dimensions of women's lives. The question is, should one be privileged over others?

A glass half-full or half-empty?

Women's incorporation in the nationalist movement set the stage for the acceptance of women's leadership in politics. While some of this leadership rested in familial connections, many women leaders of modern India do not owe their positions to fathers or husbands. Most of these leaders focused on pressing issues of the day, which generally did not include women's empowerment. Nonetheless, their very presence created space for women's increased participation in electoral politics, setting the stage for grass-roots mobilisation.

Civil society mobilisation around legal and policy reforms directly affecting women's lives tried hard to remain non-partisan and build a rights-based agenda as a bulwark against persistent patriarchal institutions. However, this right-based agenda ultimately sought to reform state policies and legal institutions. In contrast, and possibly in response, over the past two decades, the state chose its distinct path to mobilising women.

About 12 million SHGs, consisting of 10-15 members each, are organised under the aegis of government programmes in the Indian countryside. They replaced women's groups under the older programme, Mahila Samakhya, which was explicitly designed to mobilise women and sensitise them about their rights. Evaluation of Mahila Samakhya by researchers from Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Ahmedabad noted the programme's success in mobilising women but highlighted its relative ineffectiveness in enhancing vocational skills and entrepreneurship. This is a deficiency the current generation of the SHG movement, in close connection with the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM), seeks to address.

Evaluating the current version of state-sponsored programmes under the NRLM by Imago and 3ie teams paint a mixed picture. Reliance on high-interest loans from moneylenders has declined. In some states, there is a slight increase in incomes (largely men's wage incomes), often because NRLM participation was layered with MGNREGA. However, there is limited evidence of increased incomes due to entrepreneurship or women's empowerment within the household. Participation in SHGs was, however, related to increased involvement in gram panchayat meetings, creating a potential for greater political power.

Developing synergies

These diverse phases of the women's movement in India present an exciting challenge. Does the state's intrusion in women's movements weaken civil society-led programmes? Can the state-led movement transform women's lives by taking economic empowerment programmes to scale? Perhaps the answer lies in the distinction between women's practical and strategic needs. If the state-led movement can effectively enhance women's access to income-generating activities, it can serve women's practical needs and improve their economic power. Increased economic power will set the stage for serving their strategic needs, including reshaping discriminatory laws and policies and disrupting patriarchal forces within the household.

However, most of the activities of SHGs are limited to micro-credit. Unless this massive mobilisation of women is supported with other programmes that provide enhanced livelihood opportunities, they will remain toothless. Nevertheless, there are some silver linings. In some parts of the country, SHGs under the NRLM have been able to use funds under MGNREGA to build income-earning assets for women, such as cattle sheds and poultry sheds. In other areas, women's cooperatives run by SHGs have been able to supply meals and products to various government-run programmes. When convergence with other government programmes that build infrastructure or procure goods and services can be achieved, SHGs can enhance women's incomes substantially.

However, when viewed holistically, the SHG movement is neither fish nor fowl. Its potential for enhancing women's incomes has been underutilised. Simultaneously, by its vast expansion, the movement has carved into the base of women members who historically fuelled grassroots civil society movements and undermined these movements. Sometimes it has also been used as a political weapon by ruling governments – for example, the ruling CPI(M) government's use in Kerala of SHG women in constructing a human wall during the Sabarimala protests in the State.

The silver lining is that regardless of the outcome, the growth of SHGs has brought a large number of women into the public arena. If a strong civil society-led women's movement continues to thrive, this enormous army of SHG members may be able to draw strength from government programmes that empower them economically and civil society institutions that empower them socially and politically to create a formidable force for India's development. The key, however, is to not put all eggs in the single basket of state-led programmes and to ensure that other spaces for women's activism are preserved.

Sonalde Desai is a Professor of Sociology at the University of Maryland and Professor and Centre Director NCAER-National Data Innovation Centre. Views are personal

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian

"Mr. V. D. Koteswara Rao, Vysya Bank, Kamaraddy, wants to know which of the following is correct (a) It is no use waiting for a bus (b) It is no use of waiting for a bus."

" 'It is no use waiting for a bus' is correct. 'No use' here means 'useless'.

What is useless? Waiting for a bus.

It is no use crying over spilt milk.
It is no use talking about it now.
It is no use blaming him."

"Mr. K. Parameswaran, Thambu Chetty Road, Bangalore, wants to know which of the two is correct: (a) I and my wife (b) My wife and I."

"The general convention is that when you list a number of persons, I should come last. It is just a matter of good manners. It has nothing to do with grammar.

Ram, John and I went to a movie last week.

My wife and I feel unhappy if we don't quarrel at least once a day.

The Chief Minister and I travelled together, he by first class and I by second class."

"Mr. A. K. Ganguly, Calcutta, wants to know whether it is correct to say 'Please include me out'"

"It is correct. It means 'to specifically exclude.' It is used colloquially. 'Include me in' is also used these days on the analogy of 'include me out'. These two expressions are used only in colloquial English."

"Mr. P. R. Subramaniyan, Velacheri, Madras, wants to know the meaning of 'pay through the nose.'"

" 'To pay through the nose' means 'to pay an excessive price.' It would seem that in the ninth century the Danes imposed a 'nose tax' on the Irish. The nose of those who didn't pay the tax was slit! This seems to be the origin of the idiom."

"Mrs. Prema K. Narayanan, Rajajinagar, Bangalore, wants to know the pronunciation of (a) envelope (b) tryst"

"The first 'e' is pronounced like the 'e' in 'bet'; The second 'e' is pronounced like the 'a' in 'China. 'lope' rhymes with 'soap' and 'hope.' The stress is on the first syllable 'en.' 'Envelope' is 'a wrapper, covering.'

Tryst' rhymes with 'fist' and 'list.' It means 'appointed meeting, especially by lovers.' It is a literary word. On the 15th of August, 1947, Nehru said: 'Long years ago, we made a tryst with destiny and now the time comes when we shall redeem our pledge, not wholly or in full measure, but very substantially."

Published in The Hindu on March 17, 1987

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

On March 9, 1959, Mattel debuted their iconic fashion doll Barbie. A quiz on one of the world's most popular toys, considered 'a girl's best friend'

V. V. Ramanan

QUESTION 1
Name the creator and co-designer of Barbie.

QUESTION 2
Name the German doll that was the inspiration for Barbie.

QUESTION 3
After whom were Barbie and Ken named?

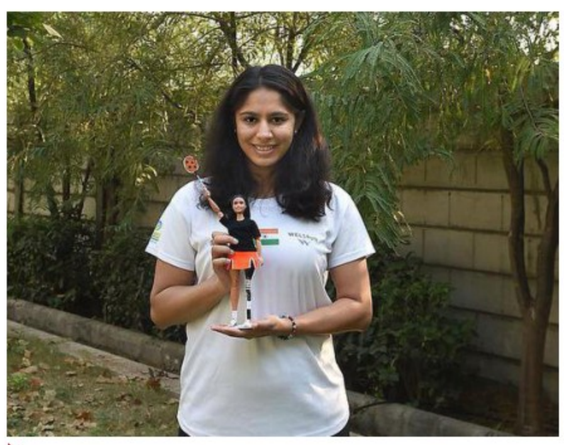
QUESTION 4
The best-selling Barbie was released in 1992. Name her.

QUESTION 5
Name the British fashion icon who was the first real-life celebrity to get her own Barbie.

QUESTION 6
What is special about Pantone colour PMS 219 C?

QUESTION 7
During her break-up period with Ken between 2004 and 2011, name the Australian surfer whom Barbie dated.

QUESTION 8
Which European group sang 'Barbie Girl' that topped the charts in 1997?



Visual question:
Name this Indian athlete who had a Barbie doll modelled to her likeness. AFP

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. This person is widely acknowledged as the first lady of Indian cinema. She and her husband established this movie studio in Bombay. **Ans: Devika Rani; Bombay Talkies**
2. She was the world's first female amputee to scale Mount Everest. **Ans: Arunima Sinha**
3. She opened her first herbal clinic in 1971 and over the next few years formed her company. **Ans: Shahnaz Husain**
4. She is claimed to be the first female Indian sociologist and anthropologist. **Ans: Irawati Karve; *Yuganta: The End of an Epoch***
5. She was an Australian-born actress and stuntwoman, most remembered for her role in *Hunterwali*. **Ans: Fearless Nadia**
6. She is the first Indian woman to win a medal at the Olympics. **Ans: Karnam Malleswari; India won only one medal in the 2000 Olympics**
Visual: Identify her. **Ans: Asima Chatterjee. She was the first woman to receive a Doctorate of Science from an Indian university**
Early Birds: Saikrit Gulati| Arnasree Chakraborty| Dilsha Raveendran| Bhanu Priya Ashok| Prasanna Anil Warrier

Word of the day

Boorish:
ill-mannered and coarse and contemptible in behaviour or appearance

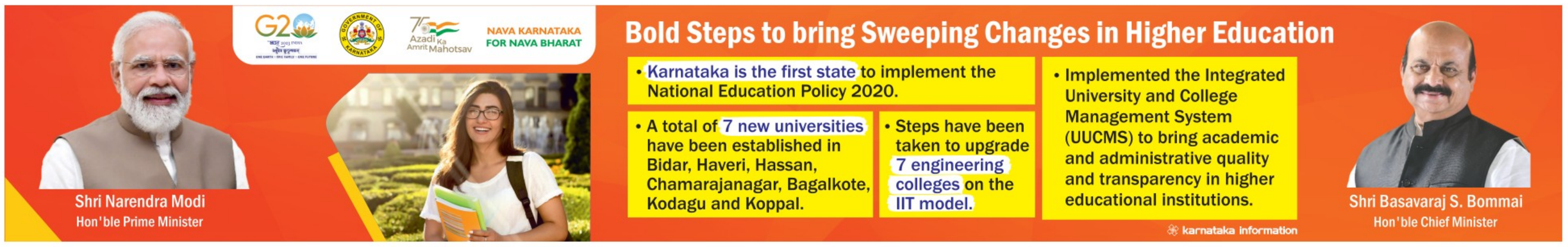
Synonyms: swinish, oafish, loutish, neanderthal

Usage: *His boorish nature resulted in the meeting being called off.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/boorishpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈbʊəɹɪʃ/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'


NAVA KARNATAKA
FOR NAVA BHARAT
Bold Steps to bring Sweeping Changes in Higher Education
• Karnataka is the first state to implement the National Education Policy 2020.
• A total of 7 new universities have been established in Bidar, Haveri, Hassan, Chamarajanagar, Bagalkote, Kodagu and Koppal.
• Steps have been taken to upgrade 7 engineering colleges on the IIT model.
• Implemented the Integrated University and College Management System (UUCMS) to bring academic and administrative quality and transparency in higher educational institutions.
Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister
Shri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister
karnataka information

Vehicles on expressway to be diverted on March 12

The Prime Minister will inaugurate the Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway on that day

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

In view of the inauguration of Bengaluru-Mysuru expressway by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on March 12, vehicles plying on the road will be diverted to alternative routes between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Deputy Commissioner of Mandya H.N. Gopalakrishna, in an order dated March 7, said the diversion will be applicable to all types of vehicles.

The diversion will be applicable to all types of vehicles.
BHAGYA PRAKASH K.

Vehicles proceeding from Mysuru to Bengaluru via Mandya will be diverted to Mysuru-Bannur-Kirugavalu-Malavalli-Halagur-Kanakapura-Bengaluru route. Those proceeding from Bengaluru to Mysuru via Mandya will be diverted to Bengaluru-Channapatna-Halaguru-Malavalli-Kirugavalu-Bannur-Mysuru route. Vehicles proceeding from Mysuru to Tumakuru via Mandya will diverted to Mysuru-Srirangapatna-Pandavapura-Nagamangala-Bellur Cross.

Vehicles proceeding from Tumakuru to Mysuru via Maddur and Mandya will be diverted to Tumakuru-Bellur Cross-Nagamangala-Pandavapura-Srirangapatna-Mysuru route.

Vehicles proceeding to Kollegal-MM Hills via Maddur will be diverted to Bengaluru-Channapatna-Halagur-Malavalli-Kollegal-MM Hills route. The Prime Minister will address a public meeting at Gejjalagere in Maddur taluk of Mandya district after inauguration of the expressway. Mr. Modi will also participate in a road show in Mandya.

Tree branches axed

The removal and axing of branches of trees in Mandya ahead of Mr. Modi's roadshow has riled activists.

The local authorities were tasked with clearing the tree branches and they were accused of going overboard and chopping the trees instead.

But Rudran, DCF, Mandya said there is a misrepresentation that all the trees are being axed while they are only being trimmed for public safety.

He said the trimming was also taking place along stretches which has nothing to do with the roadshow.

Three kidney recipients, two donors to participate in World Transplant Games

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

Indicating that organ transplant is no deterrent to donors and receivers leading a healthy life, three kidney recipients and two donors from Bengaluru are participating in the World Transplant Games (WTG) at Perth in Australia next month. For the first time, a 13-year-old kidney recipient Varun is participating in the WTG from India. March 9 is observed as World Kidney Day.

The World Transplant Games, organised by the World Transplant Games Federation, are aimed at raising public awareness on the benefits of organ donation.

Olympics committee

Recognised by the International Olympic Committee, the event brings together tissue and organ transplant recipients and donors from across the world. The biennial games - first held in 1978 in Portsmouth - had less than 100 participants from only five countries. The 2019 edition, held from August 17 to 23, saw more than 2,237 athletes from 60 nations in action. Some of the categories in the tournament are swimming, athletics, cycling, archery, golf, badminton, squash and table tennis.

Kidney recipient Varun
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Apart from the boy and his donor mother, city-based neurosurgeon Arjun Srivatsa (57), his donor younger brother Anil Srivatsa (56), an entrepreneur, and Souvik Sarkar (35), an MNC employee are part of the 31-member group representing India at the WTG to be held from April 15 to April 21.

New lease of life

Varun, a 7th standard student, was diagnosed with Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) when he was just nine. "It was painful to watch our little one undergo very dialysis and innumerable hospital stays. It soon reached a point where a kidney transplant was imminent. He got a new lease of life following his mother's kidney donation," said his father Anand Anantharaman.

"As Varun grew up, he discovered a love for racquet sports. He finds table tennis, badminton, tennis etc. challenging and exhilarating, so works hard to excel in these sports and to keep himself fit," he said.

Although some organisations are sponsoring the players, none of the participants from Bengaluru have any funding. Chennai-based Sumeer Kumar P., a former professional cricketer and transplant athlete, who is one among the 31 participants from India, said, "Apart from meeting physical challenges, we are also struggling with lack of funds. While contingents from other countries participate in the WTG with support of their respective governments, we have to self-fund."

Sunayana Singh, Chief Executive Officer of ORGAN (Organ Receiving and Giving Awareness Network) Parashar Foundation, which is the member organisation for the WTG Federation and the official team managers from India, said the Parashar Foundation and Mumbai-based Dinesh Vyas Trust are the main sponsors for the Indian participants.

Free bus ride comes as a pleasant surprise for women commuters

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation's promotional activity of offering free bus ride to women on Wednesday to observe Women's Day turned out to be a pleasant surprise for many of them. It was the first time the corporation in its history of 25 years offered free rides exclusively for women.

"It was a pleasant surprise to board the bus and find out I didn't have to buy a ticket today. I even had my change ready for a ticket. They should provide at least one such free day every week for us regular commuters," said Mangala G. from Rajanukunte.

Divya K. from Hebbal said, "I had to wait 15 minutes in the sun to get a bus and that cancels the incentive to travel for free. If they want to encourage more women to take buses, then BMTC should increase the frequency of buses at all times."

Demand to increase the frequency of buses also came from other parts of the city. Chethana R., who regularly travels from Vigyannagar to Shivajinagar said, "I am not a consistent user of BMTC, simply because finding one during late evening hours is rare. But otherwise, I have always found BMTC buses to be comfortable and clean. I wish the corporation does something about introducing more buses to areas where the frequency is low, and more late night buses too."

When asked about the response received, an official said, "On Wednesday, we operated all the scheduled services. We had asked the conductors to manually count the number of women passengers who availed the service. The number will be known on Thursday."

All-women crew

To mark the day, the South Western Railway operated KSR Bengaluru - Mysuru Rajyarani Express with an all-women crew. The train was piloted by Abhirami and assisted by Vijayalakshmi, Parthibha Singh, Vidya M. In another initiative, the SWR, on Wednesday, for the first time deployed four women technicians on the Bengaluru - Chennai Shatabdi Express to oversee power supply from loco to power car, air condition accompanying duties and others.

The KSRTC felicitated Shobha Gasti, recipient of Nari Shakti award from Government of India, for her efforts towards empowerment of women and eradication of devadasi system.

Bommai rolls out scheme for self-help groups

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai launched the "Sthree Samarthya Namo Sthree" scheme by directly transferring ₹100 crore to the beneficiary women self-help groups on Wednesday on the occasion of International Women's Day.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai felicitating achievers in various fields on the occasion of International Women's Day celebrations at Ravindra Kalakshetra in Bengaluru on Wednesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

This is the first part of the special community capital fund of ₹500 crore, which he had announced in the 2022-23 State budget, according to the Chief Minister's office.

In an event conducted by the Department of Skill Development and Livelihood, he said that the remaining amount will be released in coming weeks before commencing the activities of women self-help groups in April under the National Rural Livelihood Mission.

"Under the scheme, ₹500 crore will be distributed to 50,000 self-help groups at ₹1 lakh each. Now, ₹100 crore has been provided to 9,890 self-help groups (₹1 lakh each) and 44 production units which include 11 canteens, 9 sanitary pad units, 24 toffee production units among others (₹2.5 lakhs each)," he added.

At KSRTC

The Rural Development Commission too celebrated Women's Day.

Shilpa Nag, Commissioner, said that the role of women in creating assets of natural resources was important.

She said that the MNREGA scheme had helped rural women lead a self-reliant life.

Timings
BENGALURU

THURSDAY, MAR. 09
RISE 06:31 SET 18:29
RISE 20:03 SET 07:39

FRIDAY, MAR. 10
RISE 06:30 SET 18:29
RISE 20:52 SET 08:14

SATURDAY, MAR. 11
RISE 06:30 SET 18:30
RISE 21:42 SET 08:52

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	33	23
Mysuru	33	19
Bengaluru	31	19

Bengaluru Today
32°C The weather will be dry. Morning will be cool with mist and haze. Day will be little warm. Night also will be cool and hazy.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
33°C A dry weather to continue. Day will be warm. Night will be slight cool with haze and mist.

© Copyright Skymet Weather 2023
All rights reserved.

Passenger arrested for smoking on flight

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) police arrested a 24-year old passenger after she was caught smoking in a lavatory of a Kolkata-Bengaluru flight on March 5.

The cabin crew sensed the smell of smoke coming from the lavatory of the flight. When they forced open the door, Priyanka Chakraborty was smoking inside. She discarded the cigarette in a dust bin, following which the cabin crew poured water to douse it. They reported the matter to the captain, who filed a complaint with the airport security. The passenger was handed over to the airport security soon after the flight landed in Bengaluru airport.

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
TIRUVALLUR MUNICIPALITY
Roc.No. 4479/2017/E1 TENDER NOTICE - (TWO COVER SYSTEM) Dated : 07.03.2023
Tiruvallur The Commissioner Contract bids are welcomed by municipality to carry out the following work in Tiruvallur Municipality.

S. No.	Name of the Work	Value of Work Rs. in Lakhs	Deposit Amount Rs.
1.	Construction of New Bus Stand at Vedanginallur Village (TS.No.122/5)	3157.00	31,57,000/-

You can downloaded the Tender form from the website address **www.tenders.tn.gov.in**. The Tender should Submit through online only and Contract Deposit should also be paid through online only. Also get full details on contract points.
General Time and Day
A. Date of Bids Documents from the date to last date : **10.03.2023** to **28.03.2023** upto **3.00 PM**
B. Last date and time for submission of bid document including online submission : **28.03.2023** upto **3.00 PM**
C. Date and time opening of the Tenders : **28.03.2023** at **3.30 PM**
If the day on which the tender is received is declared to be a holiday in the office, tenders shall be opened on the following working day at the same time and place. The Commissioner shall have the power to postpone or cancel the tender without any prior notice.
DIPR/ 1560 /TENDER/2023
Commissioner, Tiruvallur Municipality.
"சோதனை வடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம், சாதனை பரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்"

BANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly Owned Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
CIN-U04010KA2002SGC030438
TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-Procurement)
BESCOM invites tender for Providing temporary Gangmen services to the C, O & M, sub-division of North Circle & East Circle in BMANZ, BESCOM, Bengaluru for a period of Six moths on Contract basis. **1) Enq. No. CEE/BMANZ/SEE(O)/AEE-1/22-23/Enq. No. 10 Dt: 27.02.2023** to Providing 339 numbers of temporary Gangmen Services to North Circle. **2) Enq. No. CEE/BMANZ/SEE(O)/AEE-1/22-23/Enq. No.11 Dt: 27.02.2023** to Providing 315 numbers of temporary Gangmen Services to East Circle.
Issue of Bid Documents: **10.03.2023 to 08.04.2023, 14.00 Hrs.** Last date for receipt of bid documents: **08.04.2023 upto 16.00 Hrs.** Opening of bid documents on or after **10.04.2023, 11.00 Hrs.**
The tender can be obtained through e-Procurement by visiting our website or directly you can access the tendering website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** Any clarification about e-payment contact e-procurement Helpdesk: **080-22485867/ 22485927** or e-mail: helpdesk.blr@rteservices.com
For Electricity related complaints call: 1912
Download BESCOM Mithra Mobile APP
Sd/-
Chief Engineer (Electy), (C, O & M), BMAZ North, BESCOM, Bengaluru.

www.hdfc.com
HDFC HOME LOANS
apni jagah banao

Special offer on
HDFC Home Loans
@8.50%* p.a. onwards
Credit score linked Interest rates#
Give us a missed call on 09289 120 120
Scan for a Home Loan
NETWORK HDFC3531-22
Disclaimer: *#All loans are at the sole discretion of HDFC Ltd.
For detailed terms & conditions, visit www.hdfc.com CIN: L70100MH1977PLC019916.

THE HINDU
DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to any published in this newspaper. THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., the Publisher & Owner of this newspaper, does not vouch for the authenticity of any advertisement or advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products and/or services. In no event can the Owner, Publisher, Printer, Editor, Director/s, Employees of this newspaper/company be held responsible/liable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in this newspaper.

Published by Nirmala Lakshman at No 19&21, Bhagwan Mahaveer Road, Bengaluru-560001 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRB Act).
RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945 • ISSN 0971 - 751X

Cabinet nod to grant govt. land for BSNL towers in remote villages

2,000 sq.ft land to be provided on a 30-year lease to install towers at 1,200 to 1,500 locations for providing broadband connectivity; a defunct sugar factory in Vijayanagara district to be sold to G.M. Siddeshwara Group

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State Cabinet has decided to grant 2,000 sq.ft land to Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) for establishing towers and providing internet connectivity in remote villages of Karnataka under the '4G Saturation Project' of the Centre.

The government land will be given to BSNL in villages which have no internet connectivity. The land will be provided on a 30-year lease. Land would be given to install towers at 1,200 to 1,500 locations in

J.C. Madhuswamy

remote villages for providing broadband connectivity.

Briefing decisions taken at a Cabinet meeting here on Wednesday, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister J.C. Madhuswamy told reporters that the government had decided to sell a defunct sugar factory located in Vijayanagara district to G.M. Siddeshwara Group. The group would invest ₹454.6 crore for reviving the factory. The factory is located at Jambunathanahalli in Hosapete taluk of Vijayanagara district. A total of 82 acres, including the factory and barren land which was earlier used for extracting iron ore, would be sold to the company at the guidance value. The group would also set up a 30-MW power plant, he said.

Following the government's decision to hike 17% salary of government employees, the Cabinet has set aside ₹7,246.85 crore for providing an interim hike, which includes salary as well as pensions. The Cabinet waived ₹166.99 crore motor vehicle tax of Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation and North-Western Karnataka Road Transport Corporation for 2022-23, the Law Minister said. The bus corporation faced financial losses owing to the pandemic.

Land for Rashtrotthana
The Cabinet approved the allotment of 10 acres for Rashtrotthana Trust at Devagiri in Haveri district for educational-related activity. It also approved allotment of 10.33 guntas of land at Kurubarahalli in Bengaluru for Janaseva Trust and 7 acres for Kodava Samaj at Yelahanka in Bengaluru. The land was sold as per the guidance value, he said.

Protection wall
A sum of ₹685 crore was approved for the construction of a protection wall in Gokak for safeguarding villages during floods in the rainy season, the Law Minister said.

Cabinet delegates powers to KMERC to utilise funds in four mining-affected districts

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State Cabinet has decided to delegate powers to the Karnataka Mining Environment Restoration Corporation (KMERC) and line departments for utilising ₹24,996.71 crore under the Comprehensive Environmental Plan for Mining Impact Zone (CEPMIZ) in mining-affected districts, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister J.C. Madhuswamy announced on Wednesday.

The funds were released for the KMERC to implement the project. The KMERC was formed as a special purpose vehicle in 2014.

The Supreme Court has appointed the former Supreme Court judge B. Sudershan Reddy as the oversight authority for the utilisation of ₹24,996.71 crore through the special purpose vehicle under the CEPMIZ. The fund would be utilised for implementing infrastructure projects in mining-affected areas of Ballari, Vijayanagara, Tumakuru, and Chitradurga districts.

In the plan, ₹13,378.41 crore has been set aside for Ballari and Vijayanagara, ₹3,792.30 crore for Chitradurga and ₹2,554.05 crore for Tumakuru. As per the Supreme Court directions on March 21, 2018, the plan was submitted to the court to mitigate hardship experienced by the community in the affected areas and to restore the ecology and environment in the districts.

The Cabinet approved the new minor mineral policy for introducing uniform rules for quarry crushing, issue of licence, and fixation of royalty. The new policy would plug the leakage of revenue owing to illegal extraction of minor minerals, Mr. Madhuswamy said. The State was losing ₹18,000 crore to ₹20,000 crore in revenue due to illegal extraction of minor minerals, according to the Public Accounts Committee report tabled in the Assembly a few months ago.

INBRIEF

Nadda, Lekhi to participate in roadshows in Bengaluru

The ruling Bharatiya Janata Party is set to undertake roadshows by prominent leaders, including its national president J.P. Nadda *(in picture)*, in Bengaluru on Thursday.

Mr. Nadda is set to undertake a roadshow in K.R. Puram besides participating in a public meeting being held as part of the party's ongoing Vijaya Sankalpa Ratha Ratra.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and party State president Nalin Kumar Kateel are also taking part in the roadshow as well as the public meeting to be addressed by Mr. Nadda.

Roadshows would be held by another team of leaders comprising Union Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture Meenakshi Lekhi and the former Chief Minister D.V. Sadananda Gowda at Dasarahalli and Kodigehalli Circle in Byatarayanapura.

CM promises 7-hour supply of three-phase power to IP sets

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Wednesday assured farmers of ensuring that their standing crops were not affected by power problems.

The Chief Minister, who held a meeting with farmers' leaders in Bengaluru, promised to ensure supply of seven hours of three-phase power a day to their irrigation pump (IP) sets, according to a press release.

He also promised to set up committees led by the Deputy Commissioners of districts to get employment to land-losers in the firms that come up on the land acquired by the KIADB.

On the demand for providing SAP to sugarcane, he said suitable action would be taken after consulting with the Finance Department. He said the government had already initiated the process of resuming crushing by Mysugar factory in Mandya, which had been shut due to losses. KRRS president Badagalapura Nagendra and others took part in the meeting.

CEC-led team to review poll preparations from today

A team of senior officials headed by Chief Election Commissioner Rajeev Kumar will visit the State for three days from Thursday to review preparations for the upcoming Assembly polls.

The team, including Election Commissioners Anoop Chandrapande and Arun Goyal, will arrive in Bengaluru on Thursday and hold a meeting with senior officials, including the Chief Electoral Officer of Karnataka on State-level election preparations. Following this, a meeting will be held with representatives of political parties separately regarding the elections, mainly to seek their advice and opinions. The team will also participate in an international seminar on 'Inclusiveness and Integrity of Democracy'.

The next day, a meeting will be held with the 34 district election officers of the State followed by the launch of a special exhibition on voter awareness and a hackathon organised by the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer and the BBMP. The team's visit will culminate with a press conference on Saturday.

Special court issues Letters Rogatory to four countries in illegal mining case

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A special court in Bengaluru for the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) cases has ordered issue of Letters Rogatory (LR) to four countries – Isle of Man, Singapore, Switzerland, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) – seeking details of a company and its bank transactions in the illegal mining and export case registered against the former Minister G. Janardhana Reddy.

The CBI had requested the special court to issue the LR to get details of GLA Trading International Pvt. Ltd. and its business and financial transactions in relation to sale of illegally extracted ores.

Chandrakala E., the judge of the special court, passed the order on

G. Janardhana Reddy

March 4 on four applications filed by the CBI seeking the issue of LR to get necessary details from the competent authorities in these countries.

The CBI has alleged that Mr. Reddy had parked the substantial portion of the amount, which is from part of the proceeds of crime, received from the sale/export of illegally mined ores during 2009-10 in these countries using this company. The details sought by the CBI also include a certified copy of the statement of account in respect of the company's bank account in the bank BNP Paribas (Suisse) SA; details of the owners and authorised signatories, real beneficiaries of the company, details of any others bank accounts held, and account numbers.

Relationship with firm
Besides, the CBI has also requested details of the relationship of Mr. Reddy and his wife, Lakshmi Aruna, with the company, the real business in which the company was engaged since incorporation, and the genuineness of the directors and shareholders of GLA Trading International Pvt. Ltd.

Congress to give ticket to only one MLC

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Except for U.B. Venkatesh, MLC, the Congress has decided against giving the ticket to any other member of the Upper House of the State legislature to contest the Assembly elections.

Mr. Venkatesh, a loyalist of AICC president M. Mallikarjun Kharge, will be given the ticket to contest from the Basavanagudi Assembly constituency in Bengaluru, sources in the party said. Half a dozen MLCs had submitted applications to the Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee seeking ticket to contest the Assembly elections. Party leaders have prepared a list of candidates in 120 constituencies and it would be submitted to the Central election committee of the party. The first list of 120 candidates is expected to be announced by March 20, according to sources.

25 booked for bid to set fire to Dalit's house

The Hindu Bureau
HUBBALLI

The police have registered a case against 25 people belonging to 'upper' caste on the charge of trying to set fire to a Dalit's house at Nandihalli in Ranebennur taluk of Haveri. The attempt was made on Sunday night after an altercation between members of Dalit families and 'upper' caste families during a village fair procession .

Sexual assault charge: Some people taken into custody

The Hindu Bureau
HASSAN

The police on Wednesday took a couple of people into custody for interrogation on allegations of sexually assaulting students in a government residential school in Belur taluk. "We are investigating the case based on the students' statements," said Hariram Shankar, Hassan SP.

Government of Karnataka
(Department of Public Instruction)
KARNATAKA TEXT BOOK SOCIETY ®
6th cross, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru-560003,
Phone : 080-26422238/45, e-mail: mdktbs.tender@gmail.com
Website: http://www.ktbs.kar.nic.in
No: A6/KTBS/PU/TBPS/07/2022-23 Date: 08.03.2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-procurement only)

Tender is invited under Two Bid System on Government of Karnataka e-procurement platform from eligible printers of Karnataka and Neighbouring States having Infrastructure as specified in the Tender Document to print and supply about **3.35 lakhs** of text books for PUC I & II Year Students studying in Karnataka State for the year 2023-24. Eligible printers may offer their bidding **up to 5.30 PM on 15.03.2023.** Tender document is available in e-portal as well as department website.

E-procurement portal address: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

Portal Help line:080-46010000, 080-68948777, 080-22230960 and 080-22234115, Department Website: http://www.ktbs.kar.nic.in

Sd/-Managing Director,
Karnataka Text Book Society, Bengaluru.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
WATER RESOURCE DEPARTMENT
KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
Executive Engineer, KNNL, KPC Division No-1, Bidar.
No. KNNL/EE/KPC1 /BDR /PB/TND/2022-23/ 1525 Date: 06/03/2023

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(ONLY THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT SYSTEM).
TWO COVER SYSTEM

Tenders in Electronic mode on "PERCENTAGE BASIS" are invited on behalf of the Managing Director, KNNL, Bangalore, by the Executive Engineer, KNNL, K P C Division No.1, Bidar in 4701 SCP/TSP & Consultancy Single cover system (Cover-I) & Two cover system (cover II), from the contractors/firm/company enrolled under KNNL and KPWD of Karnataka State who fulfill the qualifying conditions, for the details mentioned below.

WorksDetails: The eligibility of contractor (KPWD Civil Class-I to Class-Iv) amount put to tender Rs. 4,18,504.50 (Four lakhs eighteen thousand five hundred and four paise zero five zero only) to 2,53,24,234.28 (Two crores fifty three thousand twenty four two hundred thirty four and two right only) and EMD amount Rs. 6,500/-(Six thousand fivr hundred only) to 4,48,500/- (Four Lakhs fourty eight thousand five hundred only).

Scheduled Date :a) Access to the e-tender document : From 08/03/2023 to 15/03/2023 up to 16.00 Hrs.b) Cost of Tender form and EMD:as pere-procurement,c) Pre-bid meeting :10/03/2023 at 11.00, last date to submit tender document :15/03/2023 upto 16.00 Hrs. d)Opening of Technical Bid (Two Cover) & Financial Bid(Single cover):16/03/2023 e)Opening of Financial (Two Cover) Bid date:17/03/2023 @ 11.00 Hrs.

All details & information can be had from the office of the under signed during office hours (Phone No- 08482-226490) and visit website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in

DIPR/Bidar/519/MC&A/2022-23

Sd/- Executive Engineer
KNNL, KPC, Division no-1, Bidar.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

D.DIRLAL DOSS (80), Retired Senior Daffedar, Security Dept, The Hindu, Chennai. Passed away on 02-02-2023. Address: 178, Bhaskar Colony I Street, Virugambakkam, Chennai - 600 092 Contact No: 93801 00542

IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES
To dedicate a space in this section, Please contact:
Bengaluru: 98455 29981, 080 - 22071826
Hubballi: 0836 - 2338600
Mangaluru: 0824 - 2417575, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
For Placing Advertisements Online log on to : www.thehinduads.com
DONATE EYES - GIFT SIGHT

PUBLIC NOTICE

The general public is hereby informed that my clients intend to purchase the property described in the schedule hereunder from its present owner **MRS. KAMALJIT KAUR,** wife of Mr. Ranjit Singh Guglani, residing at E-2/9, Ground Floor, East Patel Nagar, Patel Nagar S O, Central Delhi 110008, she having acquired title to the same under a Gift Deed dated 09.06.2017 registered as Document No. VRT-1-01252-2017-18 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Varthur, Bangalore.

All persons, banks, financial institutions, firms, companies etc having or claiming any right, title, estate or interest by way of inheritance, share, sale, mortgage, transfer, lease, tenancy, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, gift, devise, bequest, exchange, pre-emption, possession or encumbrance or otherwise howsoever into or upon the Schedule Property herein below described, are called upon to intimate the same in writing to the undersigned at the below given address along with all the documents relating to such claim within **14 days** from the date of publication of this notice, failing which any such claim of any party shall be deemed to have been waived for all legal practical purposes and shall not be entertained hereafter and I shall opine that the Schedule Property is free of any claims and my clients will be free to proceed with the proposed purchase of the Schedule Property

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of **Residential Apartment No. G-03** on the Ground Floor in the project known as **"REGENT PLACE GOLD",** measuring **2132 sq.ft.** of super built up area, together with 2132/16000th undivided share, right, title and interest in the land earlier bearing Khata No. 28/2, House List No. 27 and 28 in **Thubarahalli Village,** Varthur Hobli, Bengaluru Urban District presently in Bangalore East Taluk and now within the limits of the BBMP and the land is bounded as follows:

East by : Property in Survey No. 28/3 and 29
West by : Road
North by : Survey No. 16
South by : Villa No. 124 and Club House, swimming pool and 'REGENT PLACE'

Vivek Anand Anthony Britto
Vir Anthony Britto
Advocates
"Daisville", 633, 5th Main, Indiranagar II Stage, Bengaluru-560038
Place: Bengaluru Date: 08.03.2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, 1) MR. K. SRINIVASA GOWDA s/o Late. Kempe Gowda & **2) MRS. K. S. NETHRAVATHI** w/o Mr. K. Srinivasa Gowda are the absolute owners of the property described in the Schedule hereunder.

It is brought to the notice of the general public that, our client has negotiated and decided to purchase the Schedule Property from the above said owner. All persons having any claim against or to the Schedule Property or any part thereof by way of inheritance, mortgage, sale, conveyance, MOU, Agreement to Sell, G.PA, transfer, lease deed, tenancy, license, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, gift, exchange, possession, adverse possession or otherwise howsoever are hereby required to submit the same in writing along with documentary proof to the undersigned at their office as shown below **within 15 days from the date of publication hereof**, failing which our client shall proceed without any reference to such claim and the same, if any, will be considered as waived.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Converted Property bearing **Plot No. 25,** BBMP Khatha No. 1464/1340/25, formed in **Sy.No.6/7**, measuring **East to West (111+124)/2 feet** and **North to South 50 feet** in all measuring **5875 Sq. feet**, in the **Ittina layout,** situated at Kasavanahalli Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk and bounded on: **East by :** Private Property; **West by :** Road; **North by :** Site No. 24; **South by** : Site No. 26;
Dated this 09th day of March 2023 at Bangalore

M/S. LEGAL NEXUS,
ADVOCATES & CONSULTANTS,
No. 428, 24th Main, 25th Cross, Sector – 2,
H.S.R Layout, Bangalore – 560 102.
Phone: 080-65555914
Mobile: 9945688974; 9164150690

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public are hereby informed that my clients **Mrs. Hemanthakumari P.M. and Mr. Basawaraj Majage,** both residing at #438, 17B Cross, Jnanabharathi II Stage, Bengaluru 560 056, intend to jointly purchase the immoveable property described in the schedule hereunder (hereinafter referred to as the '***Schedule Property***') from Mrs. Vasantha Kannan, Daughter of Kannan.S, residing at House No. 23/24, near St. Peeter's School, Nagadevanahalli, Bengaluru 560 056, who has represented to be the sole and absolute owner thereof with unrestricted rights of alienation over the same.

Any person claiming to have any manner of right, title, claim or interest in any portion of the Schedule Property is hereby called upon to notify the undersigned with supporting documents thereof **within Fourteen (14) days** from the date of this notice, after which period, my client shall proceed on the basis that there are no claims of whatsoever nature with regard to the Schedule Property or any part thereof nor any objections to the sale thereof by the aforesaid Mrs. Vasantha Kannan to my clients.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of **Residential Property bearing House List No. 8, Old TMC Katha No. 41/1, New BBMP Katha No. 1159/889/41/1/8, situated at Nagadevanahalli Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk,** and coming under the limits of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, Bangalore, measuring East to West: 60'-0" ft., and North to South: 40'-0" ft., totally measuring 2400 sq. ft., with 100 square feet A.C. Sheet Roofed, Cement and Brick Wall, Red Oxide Flooring, jungle wood doors and windows with all civic amenities and bounded on **East by:** Road; **West by:** Site No. 3; **North by:** Site No. 9; **South by:** Site No. 7.

Sd./-
VEDANAYAKI KIRAN D.
ADVOCATE
No. 150, 1st D Main, 10th Cross, Kengeri Satellite Town, Bengauru 560 060.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The general public is hereby informed that my clients intends to purchase the property described in the schedule hereunder from its present owner **Mr.Sunil R. Gowda,** son of Mr. Rokkappa Gowda, residing at No.1648, 103rd Ave SE, Bellevue, WA 98004, United States of America, he having acquired title to the same by Sale Deed dated 13.10.2003 registered as Document BNG(U)KRP/14047/2003-04 at the office of the Senior Sub-Registrar, Krishnarajapura, Bangalore.

All persons/ firms/ companies/ banks/ financial institutions having or claiming any right, title, estate or interest by way of inheritance, share, sale, mortgage, transfer, lease, tenancy, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, gift, devise, bequest, exchange, pre-emption, possession or encumbrance or otherwise howsoever into or upon the Schedule Property herein below described, are called upon to intimate the same in writing to the undersigned at the below given address along with all the documents relating to such claim, within **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice, failing which any such claim of any party shall be deemed to have been waived for all legal practical purposes and shall not be entertained hereafter and I shall opine that the Schedule Property is free of any claims and my client will be free to proceed with the proposed purchase of the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the vacant Site residential bearing **No.E-183** (Khata No.297/E-183) measuring East to West: 80 feet and North to South: 50 feet, in all measuring **4000 square feet** in the layout known as **"Manyata Residency"** situated at Rachenahalli Village, K.R.Pura Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, Bengaluru District and bounded as follows:

East : Site No.E-164;
West : Road;
North : Site No.E-182;
South : Site No.E-184.

Vivek Anand Anthony Britto
Vir Anthony Britto
Advocates
"Daisville", 633, 5th Main, Indiranagar II Stage, Bengaluru-560038
Place: Bengaluru Date: 08.03.2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Client intends to purchase the property more particularly described in the Schedule hereunder from the **Sri. Murthy. L, the present owner** who has represented that he has a clear and marketable title to the same. Any person/s, financial institutions and statutory authorities who claims any right, title or interest of any nature in or any lien, charge or enforceable right in relation to the Schedule Property and/or has any objections of any nature to the aforesaid transaction should lodge such claim and/or objections in writing to the undersigned together with supporting documents within fifteen (15) days hereof, failing which it will be presumed that no valid claims or objections subsist and my clients would proceed to complete the transaction with the present owners thereof subject to compliance with other statutory and legal formalities.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ITEM NO – I : All that piece and parcel of the immovable property being agricultural dry land measuring an extent of about 0.21.08 guntas comprised in Sy.No.140/2 (Old Sy.No.140) of Harobande Village, Kasaba Hobli, Chikkaballapura Taluk and District and bounded on the:
East by : Road
West by : Lands comprised in Sy.No.140/1
North by : Kaluve
South by : Lands comprised in Sy. No.140/3

ITEM NO – II : All that piece and parcel of the immovable property being agricultural dry land measuring an extent of about 1 Acre 03 guntas comprised in Sy. No. 140/4 (Old Sy. No. 140) of Harobande Village, Kasaba Hobli, Chikkaballapura Taluk and District and bounded on the:
East by : Road
West by : Lands comprised in Sy.No.140/5
North by : Lands comprised in Sy. No. 140/3
South by : Lands comprised in Sy. Nos. 140/5 and 140/6

VIJAY.K, Advocate
#13, 1st Floor, 7th Temple Street, Malleshwaram,
Bangalore - 560 003, Mob : 99800-18455,
E-mail : vijaykupur@yahoo.com
Bangalore, Date : 09/03/2023

'Police facilitating politicians to escape law'

First information reports being registered without following procedure in election code violation cases, says Karnataka High Court; it directs the Election Commission and the State police chief to train officials and police to ensure adherence to law in registration of FIRs

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The police are facilitating accused politicians to escape from the clutches of law by registering first information reports (FIRs) without obtaining permission from the magistrate in non-cognisable offence cases, despite seizure of huge amounts of cash and other articles by flying squads during general elections, said the High Court of Karnataka.

Therefore, the court said, it was necessary to issue directions to the State police chief, the Home Secretary, the Election Commission of India (EC), and the State Election Commission to provide proper training to officials and the police to follow the procedure laid down in the law for registering cognisable and non-cognisable offences during elections.

Chargesheet quashed

A Bench of Justice K. Natarajan issued the directions while quashing the chargesheet filed against BJP's A. Manju, who had unsuccessfully contested in the parliamentary elections in 2019 from the Hassan Lok Sabha constituency.

The chargesheet was filed for holding a press meet at a hotel in Hassan in violation of the prohibitory orders imposed under Section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. However, the court found that the complainant, a member of the election flying squad, did not register the complaint against Mr. Manju as per the procedure and the police conducted investigation without obtaining permission from the magistrate.

Pointing out that there is a gross violation of procedures despite the High Court quashing a number of complaints and chargesheets citing these irregularities by the police, the court said proper training was essential to ensure adherence to lawful procedure.

"Most of the cases were registered by the police on the complaint filed by the flying squad. It remains only as an empty formality during the election, and finally, in most cases, the police file a 'B' report when the candidate is elected or file a chargesheet against the losing candidate, even though they know well that in a non-cognisable offence, the FIR cannot be registered without permission of the magistrate.," the court observed.

The court directed the State police chief and the heads of the Election Commissions to ensure that in case of non-cognisable offences, informants have to obtain permission from the jurisdictional magistrate under Section 155 (2) of the Cr.PC for investigation, and FIR can be registered by the police only after the magistrate accords permission by following the procedure laid down in the Karnataka Criminal Rules of Practice, 1968.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday

TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Thursday: Thunderstorm accompanied with lightning/gusty wind likely at isolated places over Gangetic West Bengal, Jharkhand, Odisha, Chhattisgarh and east Madhya Pradesh. Heat wave conditions likely in isolated pockets over Konkan & Goa

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	32.6	17.3	Kozhikode	—	36.2	24.6
Ahmedabad	—	36.7	20.6	Kurnool	—	37.4	21.2
Aizawl	—	29.0	10.0	Lucknow	—	32.0	19.1
Allahabad	—	32.5	19.0	Madurai	—	35.6	24.1
Bengaluru	—	30.6	19.1	Mangaluru	—	36.4	21.8
Bhopal	—	—	15.4	Mumbai	0.2	35.9	21.4
Bhubaneswar	—	36.7	22.2	Mysuru	—	33.1	19.2
Chandigarh	—	28.6	14.0	New Delhi	—	30.7	15.4
Chennai	—	32.5	23.8	Patna	—	28.4	17.4
Coimbatore	—	33.7	21.5	Port Blair	—	31.5	25.2
Dehradun	—	28.4	14.2	Puducherry	—	33.0	20.8
Gangtok	—	18.4	11.7	Pune	0.8	33.3	15.6
Goa	—	38.4	23.8	Raipur	0.8	33.3	21.0
Guwahati	—	33.0	15.8	Ranchi	—	27.2	18.5
Hubballi	—	35.0	19.0	Shillong	—	22.9	10.0
Hyderabad	—	33.9	18.5	Shimla	—	—	11.0
Imphal	—	31.1	13.1	Srinagar	—	21.1	3.5
Jaipur	2.8	29.2	19.5	Thiruvananthapuram	—	34.2	24.6
Kochi	—	34.4	25.0	Tiruchi	—	34.3	23.0
Kohima	—	22.6	10.0	Vijayawada	—	34.4	22.4
Kolkata	—	34.0	21.8	Visakhapatnam	—	33.5	24.2

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	..—	..—	...8	...287	...233	
Bengaluru	...6	..51	.33	...111	...105	
Chennai	.25	.35	.57	...102	88	
Delhi	..—	..93	.65	...257	...277	
Hyderabad	...5	..43	.38	93	...124	
Kolkata	.13	..42	.65	...165	...127	
Lucknow	.25	..63	.38	...275	...184	
Mumbai	.96	224	100	89	...106	
Pune	107	156	114	...257	...150	
Visakhapatnam	.10	..51	.52	...132	...182	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Byrnihat, Assam recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 335 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Shivamogga, Karnataka recorded a healthy AQI score of 33

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

INBRIEF

Actor C. Shukkur marries wife under Special Marriage Act

Actor C. Shukkur and wife, Sheena Shukkur, got their marriage reregistered under the Special Marriage Act at the Hosdurg sub-registrar office, Kasaragod, on Wednesday. The couple, whose marriage was solemnised earlier, decided to reregister their marriage to overcome what they termed the discrimination against women in the matter of inheritance in Shariat Law.

NASA hands over NISAR satellite to ISRO

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

NASA-ISRO SAR satellite being unloaded from an aircraft on Wednesday. @USANDCHENNAI/TWITTER

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has received the NASA-ISRO SAR (NISAR) satellite from the U.S. space agency. NISAR is a Low Earth Orbit observatory jointly developed by NASA and ISRO.

According to ISRO, NISAR will map the entire globe in 12 days and provide spatially and temporally consistent data for understanding changes in Earth's ecosystems, ice mass, vegetation biomass, sea level rise, groundwater and natural hazards, including earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanoes and landslides.

NISAR carries L and S dual-band Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR), which operates with the Sweep SAR technique to achieve large swaths with high-resolution data. The SAR payloads mounted on Integrated Radar Instrument Structure (IRIS) and the spacecraft bus are together called an observatory.

Last month, NASA said since early 2021, engineers and technicians at Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in Southern California have been integrating and testing NISAR's two radar systems – the L-band SAR provided by JPL and the S-band SAR built by ISRO.

The final integration of the satellite will be carried out at the U.R. Rao Satellite Centre in Bengaluru, and ISRO is looking to launch the satellite in 2024 from Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.

Zilla Panchayath, Tumkur
Office of The Executive Engineer,
Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Tumkur,
No.50/EE/RDWS&SD/TMK/JJM/AE-1&2/3949/2022-23
Date: 01.03.2023

Short-term Tender Notification

On behalf of the Governor of Karnataka Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking Water Supply & Sanitation Division Tumkur has Invites request for proposal tenders from the eligible bidders for the One and Two Cover work detailed in the table below. Tender procedure as per rule 28 of the KTPP act shall be followed. The tenders are Required to submit through E-Procurement mode through portal. http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in. from Class-III & above PWD Registered Contractors who have got adequate financial resources & sufficient past experience for the following JJM Works of Tumkur, Gubbi, Sira, Tumkur and Tiptur of Tumkur Dist. As per the schedule given below. (Minimum Tender Amount Rs.85.56 Lakhs EMD Amount Rs.1,71,120/- and Maximum Tender Amount Rs. 405.98 Lakhs EMD Amount Rs.6,08,970/–)

Particulars & Details : (1) Last date of submit bids on e-portal : **20.03.2023** Upto 17.00 Hours. **(2)** Pre Bid Meeting (KW-3 works): Date: **15.03.2023** at 11.00 A M Venue, Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking water & Sanitation Division Tumkur. **(3)** Technical and Financial bis Opening of Bids: **21.03.2023** at 17.30 PM onwards **(4)** Financial Opening of Bids (KW-3 works): **27.03.2023** at 11.00 AM onwards. For further particulars/details may avail from the office of the undersigned during office hours on all working days and may visit the website : www.eproc.karnataka. gov.in

Sd/- Executve Engineer,
RDW & S Division, Tumkur.

DIPR/TUM/1043/KSMCA/2022-23

Govt. of Karnataka
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Panchayath Raj Engineering Division, Vijayapur
Tel.No:08352-277816, Fax.No:08352-277817,
E-Mail:zpebjp9@yahoo.co.in
NO:EE/PRED/VJP/E-Proc/TND/2022-23/3584 Dated:07.03.2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Two Cover System)

Tender called for the work in the above notification through E-mode tendering is read as below. Item rate Tender under two cover bid system is invited as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement ACT 1999 and Rules 2000 STANDARD BID DOCUMENT KW-4 through electronic Tendering system (e-tender from Class -1 Contractor (Civil) registered in KPWD/PRED/ who have got adequate financial resources, state of technology, suitable construction equipments technical man power & sufficient past experience for the following work as per the schedule given below.

1. Improvements to Road from Belur cross to Kodaganur, Belur Village to Gundkanal Village, Gundknal Village to Bilebhavi Cross And Masikinal Cross to Maskinal Village in Talikote taluka of Vijayapura Dist. Rs. 629.65 Lakhs KW-4

2) Improvements to Road from Tarnal Village to Muddebihal Road. & Nidagundi Highway to Degree college in Hadalageri in Muddebihal taluka of Vijayapura Dist. Rs. 314.82 Lakhs KW-4

Details in this regard are available on website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in or contact the above office during office hours

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
P.R.E. Division, Vijayapur

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/1013/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2022–23

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
Department of Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development
Office of the Executive Engineer
MI & GWD Division, Mandya
No:EE:MID:MDY:TB:2022-23:1832 Date:06.03.2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION NO : 17/ 2022-23 , Dated : 06-03-2023.

ItemWise Tenders are invited from registered and eligible contractors under " e - Procurement " Portal as per the terms and conditions prescribed in standard tender bid documents KW-3. Under the Head of Account 4702: Modernization Of Tank there us 01 No Work, Amount put to tender ranging from **Rs. 2597.78 Lakhs**. Any information regarding this tender may be obtained from this office up to dated : **13.03.2023** during office hours. The tenders may be uploaded (Technical and Financial bids to be uploaded separately) with the prescribed E.M.D and requisite documents through website **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** upto dated : **15.03.2023 up to 17.30 Hours.** Technical bids of the bidders will be opened on dated :**17.03.2023 at 11.00 AM.** Financial bids of the bidders will be opened on dated : **20.03.2023 at 11.00 AM**. All the rights are reserved for postponement or cancellation of all works or any of the work of this tender by the under signed. Terms and conditions required for the each work is published in the " e - Procurement " Tender Portal. Any additional information is available at the office of the undersigned. Any corrections regarding the works will be published in " e - Procurement " portal only.

Sd/-Executive Engineer, MI & GWD Division, Mandya.

DIPR/AD-MDY/KSMCA/761/2022-23

Government of Karnataka
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Public Works Department Division, Haveri
This office letter No.033/PB/Tnd/5054-8443/2022-23/8887/
Dated : 06-03-2023

E-Tender Notification

On 06-03-2023 through E-Procurement tender notification has been issued for the following Work Indent No. 166338, 166340 & 165939 Last date for submission of tender receipt is assigned on Dated : **15-03-2023** (upto 4:00 PM), Work Indent No. 166096, 165938 & 162430/Call-2 Last date for submission of tender receipt is assigned on Dated: **21-03-2023** (upto 4:00 PM). For further additional information, any changes & queries visit https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.

Sd/- (K.Ramesh)
Executive Engineer,
PWD Division, Haveri

DIPR/Haveri/KSMCA/622/2022-23

Office of the Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Chikkamagaluru Division, Chikkamagaluru
Short-Term Tender Notice No.: 52/2022-23 Date: 04.03.2023

In the Tender Notice seen above Tender is invited from eligible contractors for total 15 works through Manual and e-proc coming under Chikkamagalur Public Works Department, Chikkamagaluru District. Details of capabilities to undertaking or having implemented the works (as per Standard Tender Document KW-1,2,3&4) should be attached. Contractors can be awarded the contract only if they have the minimum eligibilities as mentioned in Act 3. Minimum Approx. Amount Rs. 5.00 lakh and Maximum Approx. Amount Rs. 999.00 lakhs. For one work Tender called through Manual eligible contractors should pay the prescribed fee and submit application requesting blank Tender Form on 10.03.2023 and obtain blank Tender Form on 13.03.2023 and submit filled Tenders on 13.03.2023 up to 4.00 PM. For Tender to be submitted through e-proc for 14 works tender should be submitted on 15.03.2023 up to 4.00 PM. For further details the case worker can be contacted during office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Chikkamagaluru Division, Chikkamagalur.

DIPR/ckm/No.301/mca/22-23/2060

Zilla Panchayath, Tumkur
Office of The Executive Engineer,
Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Tumkur,
No.52/EE/RDWS&SD/TMK/JJM/AE-1&2/3960/2022-23
Date: 03.03.2023

Short-term Tender Notification

On behalf of the Governor of Karnataka Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking Water Supply & Sanitation Division Tumkur has Invites request for proposal tenders from the eligible bidders for the One and Two Cover work detailed in the table below. Tender procedure as per rule 28 of the KTPP act shall be followed. The tenders are Required to submit through E-Procurement mode through portal .http://eproc.karnataka. gov.in. from Class-III & above PWD Registered Contractors who have got adequate financial resources & sufficient past experience for the following JJM Works of Tiptur, Koratagere, Kunigal, Madhugiri and Gubbi of Tumkur Dist. As per the schedule given below. (Minimum Tender Amount Rs.72.70 Lakhs EMD Amount Rs.1,45,400/- and Maximum Tender Amount Rs.231.16 Lakhs EMD Amount Rs.3,46,740/-)

Particulars & Details : (1) Last date of submit bids on e-portal : **21.03.2023** Upto 17.00 Hours. **(2)** Pre Bid Meeting (KW-3 works): Date: **15.03.2023** at 11.00 A M Venue, Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking water & Sanitation Division Tumkur. **(3)** Technical and Financial bis Opening of Bids: **23.03.2023** at 17.30 PM onwards **(4)** Financial Opening of Bids (KW-3 works): **29.03.2023** at 11.00 AM onwards. For further particulars/details may avail from the office of the undersigned during office hours on all working days and may visit the website : www.eproc.karnataka. gov.in

Sd/- Executve Engineer,
RDW & S Division, Tumkur.

DIPR/TUM/1058/KSMCA/2022-23

Zilla Panchayath, Tumkur
Office of The Executive Engineer,
Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Tumkur,
No.48/EE/RDWS&SD/TMK/JJM/AE-2/3934/2022-23
Date: 27.02.2023

Short-term Tender Notification

On behalf of the Governor of Karnataka Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking Water Supply & Sanitation Division Tumkur has Invites request for proposal tenders from the eligible bidders for the One and Two Cover work detailed in the table below. Tender procedure as per rule 28 of the KTPP act shall be followed. The tenders are Required to submit through E-Procurement mode through portal. http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in. from Class-III & above PWD Registered Contractors who have got adequate financial resources & sufficient past experience for the following JJM Works of Madhugiri, and Kunigal of Tumkur Dist. As per the schedule given below. (Minimum Tender Amount Rs.13.45 Lakhs EMD Amount Rs 33630/- and Maximum Tender Amount Rs.80.07 Lakhs EMD Amount Rs.160140/-)

Particulars & Details : (1) Last date of submit bids on e-portal : **17.03.2023** Upto 17.00 Hours. **(2)** Pre Bid Meeting (KW-3 works): Date: **10.03.2023** at 11.00 A M Venue, Executive Engineer, Rural Drinking water & Sanitation Division Tumkur. **(3)** Technical and Financial bis Opening of Bids: **18.03.2023** at 17.30 PM onwards **(4)** Financial Opening of Bids (KW-3 works): **21.03.2023** at 11.00 AM onwards. For further particulars/details may avail from the office of the undersigned during office hours on all working days and may visit the website : www.eproc.karnataka. gov.in

Sd/- Executve Engineer,
RDW & S Division, Tumkur.

DIPR/TUM/1048/KSMCA/2022-23

Office of the Executive Engineer, P.W.D. Special Division, Shivamogga
Ph: 08182 - 222942, E-Mail: spdivision@gmail.com

IFT No: 88/2022-23 **Date: 04.03.2023**

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System) (through e-procurement)

The Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Shimoga Special Division, invites tenders as per K.T.P.P act 2000, in standard Bid document K/W- 4 (two cover system) Contractors has registered in PWD Department **Class-3 above** can apply for the work **Construction of Workshop Building and Renovation of Existing rooms to KSISF Officer Chamber, Rest rooms in the Premises of Central Jail at Sogane, Shivamogga. (Indent No. 160655) approved under 8443-Deposit Contribution (Prisons Department). Amount put to lender is. Rs. 79.80 Lakhs and EMD amount is Rs. 1.60 lakhs. Time allowed for completion of work is 09 Months including Monsoon.** The tenderers may submit tenders through E-procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka **(viz., http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in).**

The Tenderers are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in Clause 3 of the Section -2 (Instructions to tenderers) of document, to qualify for award of the contract. Tender documents may be downloaded from the e-Procurement portal from **04-03-2023 to 13-03-2023**. Last date for Receipt of Tender is on **13-03-2023 at 17.00 PM.** The Technical bid will be opened on **14-03-2023 at 05.30 PM** onwards and Financial bid will be opened after **15-03-2023** Onwards. If there any changes in publication, it will be publishing through E-Procurement only. For more information may be obtained from the office during working hours. Information published in Website is final.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
PWD, Special Division, Shivamogga.

DIPR/SMG/No.47/ZEN/2022-23

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Project Division, RR Nagara Zone, BBMP Office Buliding, 2nd Floor, Neharu Road, BEML Lay out, Bengaluru - 560 098.

No.BBMP/EE/Proj/RRN/TEN/12/2022-23 Date: 08.03.2023

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only) (Two Cover System)

The Executive Engineer, Project Division, R.R Nagar Zone invites the tenders from eligible contractors for various construction works detailed in the table below.

Sl. No.	Ward No.	Est. Cost (Rs. in lakhs)	EMD (in Rs.)	No. of Works
1	28	99.99 each	2,00,000 each	05
2	29	99.99 each	2,00,000 each	10
3	30	99.99 each	2,00,000 each	05
4	31	99.99 each	2,00,000 each	02
5	32	99.99 each	2,00,000 each	03
6	33	99.99 each	2,00,000 each	03
7	34	99.99 each	2,00,000 each	04
8	35	99.99 each	2,00,000 each	08
			Total Works	40

1) Tender documents may be downloaded from GOK e-Procurement portal **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in from 09.03.2023 onwards. 2)** Pre-bid Meeting: **13.03.2023 at 4:00 pm. 3)** Last date for uploading the tenders: **16.03.2023 upto 4.00 pm 4)** Date of opening of Technical Bid: **17.03.2023 at 4.30 pm**. Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours & also from website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Project Division, R.R. Nagara Zone.

Saha in the saddle

CM must deal with post-poll violence, address Greater Tipraland demand

A new Council of Ministers led by the Bharatiya Janata Party's Manik Saha took oath in Tripura on Wednesday. The 70-year-old doctor turned politician replaced Biplab Deb at the helm of the government in May 2022, as course correction by the BJP ahead of the Assembly polls. Things worked out well and the party has won, albeit with fewer seats. Dr. Saha continues to be Chief Minister into a second term, ending speculation about Union Minister Pratima Bhoumik being in contention. Ms. Bhoumik is likely to vacate the Assembly seat that she won and continue at the Centre. The BJP has retained four Ministers and inducted three new faces from its ranks, which includes Bikash Debbarma, the head of the party's Scheduled Tribe Morcha. The party's ally, the Indigenous People's Front of Tripura (IPFT), which was significantly diminished but won a seat, saw Sukla Charan Noatia getting a berth. In the 60-member Assembly, the Council can have 12 members, and three berths are now vacant. The BJP is reportedly in talks with the Tipra Motha, a relatively new party that made an impressive debut with 13 seats, all won from the tribal regions of the State. It is possible that the BJP and the Tipra Motha could enter into an alliance.

The BJP's victory in Tripura came after decades of quiet work undertaken by Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh-affiliated organisations, which led to the defeat of the Left Front in 2018. The importance that the party attaches to the State was evident yet again going by the presence of its top leadership, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in Agartala on Wednesday. The party's second consecutive electoral victory reinforces it in the border State, but new challenges have arisen. The new government has the immediate task of calming the violence that has followed the election results. The State has also witnessed a sharpening of the division between its tribal and non-tribal population, which the BJP has benefited from. The Tipra Motha's campaign for a separate Greater Tipraland, which includes all what is now the Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council (TTAADC) area, has created a new fault line. The demand draws from the fear that demographic changes are leading to the increasing marginalisation of indigenous communities in Tripura. During the tenure of the last government, the internally displaced Bru community was enfranchised, bringing closure to a festering conflict in the northeast. Dr. Saha has to hit the ground running and watch over his shoulder for potential challenges to his authority.

Challenge of change

Iran must opt for reforms and freedoms, especially for its women

The remark by Iran Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei that poisoning schoolgirls is an "unforgivable crime" is a de facto confirmation of reports that thousands of girls across the Islamic Republic have been subject to poison attacks over the last few months. The first such incident was reported in November in the holy city of Qom, amidst women's protests that were triggered by the death of Iranian Kurdish woman Mahsa Amini while in the custody of the infamous morality police. Since then, thousands of girls in at least 25 of Iran's 31 provinces were reportedly affected by poison attacks. Initially there were two theories, with the first suggesting that it could be an act by religious extremists opposed to girls attending schools and the second, that psychological factors could be the reason, at least in some cases. Mr. Khamenei's comment suggests that the authorities are seriously considering the possibility of chemical poisoning. The reports have created panic, triggering protests in many parts of the country, probably prompting the Supreme Leader to make the statement. Mr. Khamenei said on Monday that the regime would not spare whoever was responsible But on the same day, reports emerged of the arrest of the Qom journalist, Ali Pourtabatabaei, who reported on the poisoning.

Iran, unlike Afghanistan under the Taliban, does not have a history of preventing girls from attending schools. After the Islamic revolution of 1979, the regime imposed restrictions on women, but encouraged their education and joining the workforce. According to the World Bank, female literacy rose from 26% in 1976 to 85% in 2021. For more than a decade, women have consistently outnumbered men in Iran's universities. Given this history, it is surprising that schoolgirls are being targeted, something which did not happen even at the peak of the revolution. Therefore, such incidents should jolt the authorities into action. It may not be a coincidence that the targeting of schoolgirls occurs at a time when thousands of women, including schoolgirls, have been demanding more freedoms. The regime's response has been brutal. But the Mullahs should realise that if the economic and social crises persist, they would further weaken a regime that is already seeing waves of protests. In a growing chasm between the country's youth and its ageing revolutionaries, incidents such as the poison attacks would only worsen the situation. The regime should bring those responsible to justice. But the bigger problem is the lack of reforms within Iran's system and the widening cracks between the state and society. The wave of protests is as much a challenge to the regime as it is an opportunity to drive political reforms. The Mullahs should embrace the latter to address the former.

To arrest or not to arrest is the question

The arrest of the former Delhi Deputy Chief Minister, Manish Sisodia, by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) recently has once again created a debate about the fundamentals of law enforcement. Many have criticised the CBI's move as unwarranted – one that was actuated by political considerations. Unfortunately, only a few seem to understand the intricacies of the underlying provisions of the law on arrests. No premier investigating agency would dare resort to peremptory action such as an arrest of a prominent public figure without preparing the ground in the form of the evidence available in documents and oral statements. It is an entirely different matter to allege that the CBI does not proceed with the same zeal evident in the Sisodia case against many other public figures who also face serious corruption charges. It is also preposterous to believe that an agency such as the CBI will be totally free of bias or selectivity. However, to view every arrest of a political personality as malicious is illogical and difficult to substantiate.

R.K. Raghavan

is a former Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). He is currently Professor of Criminal Justice and Policing at the Jindal Global University, Sonepat, Haryana

The two sides

Arrests involve a grave human rights issue, often ignored by many law enforcement officials. The debate on the rightness or otherwise of an arrest will remain unresolved. This writer faced the dilemma when he was heading the CBI more than two decades ago. A majority of his deputies fell in line with him whenever he advocated moderation, and advised that arrests should be made only when absolutely warranted. Even then the number of arrests was substantial causing him a lot of anguish. There were a few hawks in his team who disagreed with what they considered was his soft approach. They believed that an arrest was the only deterrent to dishonesty in public life, particularly when court processes were exasperatingly slow and more often than not, courts tended to be too liberal and unreasonably swift to give the benefit of doubt to an accused even if there were minor infirmities in the prosecution story.

This writer recalls the statement of an English judge who, while acquitting an accused charged with murder, said: "I know it was you who committed the murder (of a TV celebrity), but I have no evidence to prove your guilt." This is the huge shortcoming in the law which demands absolute proof of crime and nothing less. Therefore, the question that many law enforcement officials ask is when the dice is loaded against enforcement officials, why cannot they use the only weapon (arrest) available to them without any dictates of law?

> While the debate on the rightness or otherwise of an arrest will remain unresolved, those within the system have the responsibility to uphold sobriety and objectivity

Ask the most profound of jurists and the most sober and balanced crime investigators on whether any solid guidelines could be drawn to regulate arrest. In reply, they will hum and haw but not give a formula. The truth is it will be preposterous to attempt a prescription that fits every case. Taking advantage of this lacuna, many accused persons, when arrested, knock on the doors of the judiciary immediately after their arrest, seeking court intervention and clemency. A few judges at the lower echelons are taken in by the emotion-laden arguments of the defence lawyer and grant bail to the accused even when produced for the first time after an arrest.

Procedure of arrest

The Code of Criminal Procedure 1973 lays down the procedure to effect an arrest. Section 41 debunks the commonly held belief that a police officer must necessarily obtain a warrant from a magistrate before making an arrest. Arrests can be made without a warrant provided the officer making it is convinced that there was no time to obtain one, and records the reasons in the general diary of the police station or the police branch (notified as a police station within the meaning of the Cr.P.C) concerned for not obtaining a warrant prior to the arrest.

The main stipulation of the law and judicially accepted norms are that the officer should not use any force to effect an arrest unless the accused himself chooses to be violent. There is also the constitutional provision (Article 22) that a detained person should be apprised of the grounds of arrest as soon as possible and be produced before the nearest magistrate within 24 hours (excluding travel time) of taking him into custody. It is also incumbent on the official concerned to keep the closest relative of the accused informed that the person is in custody at a specified place.

Beyond these safeguards there is nothing in the Criminal Procedure Code that reduces the discretion of the police or law enforcement officials in making an arrest decision. This is where the shoe pinches. The investigator enjoys absolute freedom in opting for an arrest. It is his judgement alone that influences a decision. In the oft-quoted D.K. Basu vs State of West Bengal also, while the top court laid down the detailed procedures for an arrest, it did not in any way dilute the discretion of a law enforcement agency in making arrests.

This is why this writer is often exercised over some judges questioning the investigating officer over why an accused was arrested. In spite of this clear legal position, there are a few cases where the trial judges concerned question the prosecution as to why 'A' was arrested and why 'B' was not. In raising such a query, this writer believes that courts overstep their authority. This is because in cases where they suspect that an arrest decision was mala fide, they (judges/magistrates) have the authority to initiate action against an investigating officer who they believe had definitely acted out of malice. This is the deterrent built into the system against arbitrary arrests and is the rationale behind a court-monitored investigation.

Looking within

Given this scenario, how do we ensure that arrests are made in the most scrupulous manner? When the law is silent in the matter it is the basic responsibility of senior law enforcement officers, at the Centre and in the States to ensure sobriety and objectivity. This is difficult in a politically charged ambience where many governments bring enormous pressure on senior officers to dramatise the opportunity and make vindictive arrests to settle personal scores and influence public opinion. Officers investigating sensational cases involving high personages require protection and guidance by the higher echelons. If the latter fail to stand up to unethical pressure nothing can save us from blatantly unjust arrests. Senior officers will have to explain to those in government baying for dramatic action that an arrest will be made at the appropriate stage of the investigation after the gathering of solid evidence, and only on grounds of collecting further evidence through personal custodial interrogation endorsed by the competent judge. An arrest in any other circumstance will be subject to scrutiny by courts. And, where bias is writ large the latter will come down heavily on the investigating officer, with legal action taken against him if need be.

Budget 2023 is a case of education taking a hit

The allocation made for education in the Union Budget 2023 reminds a person of these lines from the Samuel Taylor Coleridge poem, "Work without Hope": "Work without Hope draws nectar in a sieve, And Hope without an object cannot live." However, the news headlines shouted out a different story: 'highest ever allocation to education'; '8% steep rise for education'; 'first-ever teacher and education-centric budget', and so on. But even a not-so-serious reading of the Budget and its provisions for education shows what is behind the facade.

The provision of ₹1,12,000 crore as compared to ₹1,04,000 crore, does not take the education sector any closer to the top 10 list of allocations as a percentage of GDP. Still, an increase of ₹8,000 crore may be termed as a massive increase.

The school sector has been allocated ₹68,804.85 crores, as against ₹63,449.37 crore last year, largely due to a fresh allocation of ₹4,000 crore for the PM ScHools for Rising India), or PM-SHRI alone.

This combined with the newly announced Eklavya model residential schools to be opened in every district of India actually brings down the provisions for already existing schools and their activities, leaving them high and dry to deal with rising prices and the pressure of increasing enrolment in government schools. Government and government-aided schools are still where the deprived and have-nots go to. Out of about 15 lakh schools, 10 lakh schools are owned and managed by the government, employing about 97 lakh teachers and catering to over 26 crore students.

Furqan Qamar

is Professor of Management at Jamia Millia Islamia and a former Adviser for Education in the Planning Commission

Navneet Sharma

teaches at the Central University of Himachal Pradesh at Dharamshala

No different in higher education

The story about higher education is no different. Allocation for higher education has also been enhanced from ₹40,828 crore in 2022-23 to ₹44,094 crore, with allocations to autonomous bodies (such as the University Grants Commission, All India Council for Technical Education, central universities, Indian Institutes of Technology, Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research, Indian Institutes of Information Technology, National Institutes of Technology, Schools of Planning and Architecture) having gone up by 13.60% on average. Of these, the central universities are the biggest beneficiary (22.39% increase).

> Unlike what the news headlines portray, scrutiny of the Budget and its provisions for education tells a different story

Total budgetary support to the Indian Institutes of Management is down from ₹653.92 crore in 2022-23 to ₹300 crore this year. A bulk of the allocation is meant for the repayment of the Higher Education Funding/Financing Agency (HEFA) loan and interests thereon, leaving only ₹15.17 crore in 2023-24.

Such a drastic reduction might have caused unhappiness but that seemed inevitable as these institutes have raised their fees to justify public funding. We do not know whether this has impacted equity on their campuses.

Many others may be genuinely disappointed too. This year's Budget makes no provision for HEFA, which could mean no new loans for infrastructure development in the centrally funded institutions. The allocation for world class universities has been slashed from ₹1,700 crore to ₹1,500 crore. Also reduced to half is the Prime Minister's Girls' hostels allocation.

Drastic reductions again

The interest subsidy and contribution for guarantee funds, scholarships for college and university students and the special scholarship for Jammu and Kashmir have now been merged into a new scheme, the Pradhan Mantri Uchchatar Shiksha Protsahan (PM-USP) Yojana. Thus, the allocation for the three schemes has been slashed from ₹1,878 crore to ₹1,554 crore.

Budgetary allocations for research, innovation, incubation and startups have either been slashed or done away with. The Startup India initiative in higher educational institutions has a reduction from ₹60 crore in 2022-23 to ₹11.21 crore, whereas the provisions for the national initiative for design innovation are down from ₹17.80 crore to ₹10 crore. For IMPacting Research, INnovation and Technology (IMPRINT) and the Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration (SPARC), the allocations have been reduced drastically. The Budget makes no provision for Impactful Policy Research in Social Sciences (IMPRESS).

All these three schemes were launched with fanfare. While the provisions for the National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT) have been unaltered at ₹400 crore, no money has been provided for virtual classrooms and massive open online courses (MOOCs), e-ShodhSindhu, the national digital library and the national academic depository.

The Budget had made the grand announcement of opening 'three' centres of excellence for artificial intelligence in the top educational institutions. It also promised a policy on national data governance. It is hoped that these do not overwhelm the education sector.

The proposed National Research Foundation has been allotted ₹2,000 crore through the Department of Science and Technology, but this awaits approval from the Union cabinet.

Thus, the overall increase in allocation to higher education is due to a reduction in recoveries from ₹14,250 crore in 2022-23 to ₹6,000 crore. In reality, the allocation for higher education has declined from ₹ 55,078 crore in 2022-23 to ₹50,094 crore in 2023-24.

Going by the Economic Survey 2023, the combined expenditure on education by the Centre and States (as a percentage of GDP), has remained stagnant at 2.9% during 2019-20 to 2022-23 (BE). As a percentage of total government expenditure, it slid from 10.7% in 2019-20 to 9.5% in 2022-23 (BE), while the share of education in social services nosedived from 42.5% to 35.5% during the same period.

In this era of 'Amrit Kaal', everybody lives in the hope of getting some portion of the nectar. Penny-pinching when it comes to education may seriously hamper the revival and the resurgence of education. Budget 2023 does not bring anything afresh. Alas, it is nectar in a sieve.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

China's accusation

That China is accusing another country of encircling it is laughable (Page 1, March 8). Of course, the United States is not an apostle of peace. The Ukraine war is an example of this. That said, China is not innocent either; it repeatedly threatens Japan, claims many islands around Japan to be China's, and does the same with the Philippines. It has given liberal donations to many African countries and taken lease of their harbours. Let us not forget China's intentions with Sri Lanka. In my view, both America and China are trying to play big brother and both are equally dangerous for peace on this planet.

T. Anand Raj,
Chennai

The allegations made by China's Foreign Minister Qin Gang, on the Indo-Pacific strategic alliance come as no surprise. Though it is apparent that the Quad (India, the U.S., Japan, Australia) and AUKUS (Australia, the U.K., the U.S.) closely monitor China's developments in the region, it is obvious that when you pursue an aggressive expansionist policy using methods such as illegal territorial occupation and debt-trapping small emerging countries, the world will definitely see you as a major security threat.

Kasulabad Ruthvik Goud,
Korukonda, Andhra Pradesh

In distress

The visual of two adult female elephants and a makhna lifeless on the ground after being electrocuted in Tamil Nadu's Dharmapuri district was heart-wrenching. The plight of the two nine-month old calves, now orphaned, is worrisome. We are already losing a sizable population of elephants in train accidents. While the farmer responsible should be handed a deterrent punishment, staff in the Electricity and the Forest Departments should also be punished for dereliction of duty.

A. Jainulabdeen,
Chennai

The report left one in deep sorrow. The Forest Department and the Electricity Department ought to have closely monitored those who cultivate land. It is a challenging process to unite elephant calves with another unrelated herd. Going forward, the Forest Department should ask the Electricity Department to visit farms regularly.

Q. Ashoka Chakkaravarthy,
Kacherimedu, Palakkad, Kerala

There was a similar incident in Tirunelveli district, but which claimed the life of a tusker. India cannot afford to lose adult elephants in their prime. Farmers must be educated about safer methods to keep elephants away.

M. Meeran Sahib,
Kallidai Kurichi, Tamil Nadu

To read more letters online, scan the QR code.Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

A case to promote border tourism

Sujan R. Chinoy

is Director General of the Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses. Views are personal

Last December, Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan spoke of the need "to repopulate vast unoccupied areas, located even far away from the last villages of the state towards the border" and emphasised the importance of promoting border tourism in such areas. The Government of India has made unprecedented efforts to build border infrastructure. It has also announced plans to open villages along the northern border for tourists under the Vibrant Villages Programme. The Home Affairs Ministry has also reportedly held meetings with public representatives of villages from various border States.

India's tremendous tourism potential in its border States remains largely untapped due to the remoteness of locations and the difficulty of access. Apart from the infrastructure deficit, even adventure sports, mountaineering and related commercial activities are subject to cumbersome security procedures and permits, often by multiple agencies.

Encouraging tourism

The tourism potential of the Karakoram Pass in Ladakh cannot be overstated. Regular motorcycle expeditions should be organised for civilians in cooperation with India's major motorcycle manufacturers. Areas such as the Saser Kangri massif could be explored for mountaineering expeditions by small experienced teams in tandem with the armed forces and the Indian Mountaineering Federation.

Similarly, the Pangong Lake in Ladakh is a tourist's paradise. The area around Pangong Lake and Chushul is a delight for photographers and birdwatchers. In the Changthang wildlife sanctuary, there are wetlands and a thriving population of the Kiang, a wild ass. Lhari Peak is sacred to both Hindus and Buddhists. The Demchok area is home to several hot springs that are popular for naturopathy cures. The nearby villages of Tsaga, Koyul and Hanle can also be further developed. There is a need to increase tourist footfalls in the Chumar area. Tourism can be promoted in the Tso Moriri lake area, with a particular focus on home stays.

In the central sector, Mana Pass in Chamoli, Uttarakhand, is one of the highest vehicle-accessible passes in the world. Mana village is steeped in mythology as the gateway to heaven. It is close to Hemkund and the Valley of Flowers. The Badrinath shrine is located nearby. The Deo Tal lake near Mana can be developed for sailing, and the nearby slopes offer a good site for skiing. Peaks such as Mount Kamet and nearby peaks in the Nilang-Jadang valley are prime destinations for mountaineering expeditions.

Likewise, the Niti Valley and the eponymous Mana village close to the Line of Actual Control in Uttarakhand have considerable potential. There is also scope to develop tourism around the Parvati Kund at Rimkhim in the Barahoti bowl. There is no gainsaying the fact that given its proximity to the contested Barahoti pasture, some special procedures for visitors would need to be put in place.

In Sikkim, the region around Doka La is ripe for tourism. Pedong, Nathang Valley, Zuluk, Kupup, Baba Harbhajan Mandir and the Yak Gold Course, the highest golf course in the world, are nearby. Conducted tours, including trekking expeditions up to Batang La, could be a start.

In the eastern sector, the Bum La Pass in Arunachal Pradesh is already a well-established tourism hub. There is scope to bring in more tourists all the way up to Zero Point, the site of border personnel meetings with China. Publicity should be given to the memorial built there in honour of Subedar (Baba) Joginder Singh, who was posthumously awarded the Param Vir Chakra for outstanding bravery in the battle near Tongpen La during the India-China war in 1962. Nearby, the Pangateng and Sangetsar lakes are picturesque. Expeditions on the lines of NIMAS's Winter Bailey Trekking Expedition could attract international tourists to Tawang and the interiors of the State.

Further up in the Upper Subansiri district, Taksing is surrounded by beautiful river valleys, virgin rainforest and scenic camping sites. It also holds religious significance for Buddhists along the ancient Tsari pilgrimage route. River rafting beyond Siyum is also a possibility. The Walong area in Anjaw district is the site of the Battle of Walong. Facilities along the stretch covering Walong, Dong, Kibithu and Kaho could showcase India's military history and tourism.

Though many border areas are remote and sparsely populated, every effort should be made to promote hubs of civilian presence and arrangements for home stays. Foreigners add value since they use social media platforms to publicise their travels. Funds from schemes such as the Border Area Development Programme should be utilised to build habitations and to lay optical fibre cable for communication.

A word of caution

The military's deployment still remains the mainstay of livelihood for local residents in many remote places. This should change in favour of commercial activity, including tourism. The priority should be to build all-weather roads, rest houses, rest rooms, fuel pumps, health clinics, electricity (preferably solar and wind energy), telecom towers, and medical facilities in suitable areas. While the vast tourism potential of India's border areas need to be tapped, it is equally important to ensure that tourism projects are implemented after conducting feasibility studies. Unbridled construction in violation of norms leads to subsidence in the Himalayan belt. Infrastructure which is built in a sustainable manner and benefits the local economy should be encouraged.

Infrastructure which is built in a sustainable manner and which benefits the local economy should be encouraged

Allaying the fears of migrants in Tamil Nadu

The Stalin administration is busy tackling a political misinformation campaign

STATE OF PLAY

D. Suresh Kumar
sureshkumar.d@thehindu.co.in

In June 2018, a Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation conductor in Erode installed the destination board, Perundurai Market, in English and Hindi on his Route 17 bus. The origin and destination points were prominently displayed in Tamil too. He wanted to help Hindi-speaking labourers in the semi-rural town to board the right bus. But images of the Hindi board were circulated on social media, inviting protests. The conductor was suspended for using an "unauthorised destination board."

Cut to March 2023, different arms of the Tamil Nadu government, particularly the police, the Labour Department and district administrations, are busy issuing public appeals in Hindi addressing the same migrant population.

This 'transformation' in less than five years in the Dravidian heartland does not reflect dilution of the State's official two language policy – Tamil and English; it was borne out of the necessity to prevent the State's economy from being crippled by politically orchestrated rumours of violent attacks on Hindi-speakers, specifically Biharis.

Over the past 15 years, migrants, mostly from Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, West Bengal and the Northeast, have taken up labour-intensive jobs in industrial estates, the construction and infrastructure sector, garment factories, export units, restaurants, fuel stations, salons, and large retail showrooms in Tamil Nadu. There are over six lakh such migrant labourers in the State who work for lower wages in a distant land due to impoverished conditions back home, and the industry in Tamil Nadu is equally dependent on them. Therefore, the M.K. Stalin administration was quick to realise that any exodus of labourers triggered by panic calls from relatives, who saw videos of violence being peddled as evidence of targeted attacks on Hindi-speakers, could bring development work to a halt. It could also disrupt the conducive industrial climate and impact Mr. Stalin's ambition of steering the State to a $1 trillion economy.

Some politicians are opposed to the extensive appointments of 'non-natives,' many of whom are unable to converse in Tamil or English, in Central government organisations, railways and banks in Tamil Nadu. Despite such political undercurrents and apprehensions about how the continued flow of migrants could alter the demographic composition, Tamil Nadu remains hospitable. In fact, last month, when a video of a Tamil man attacking migrant train passengers surfaced, it drew widespread condemnation from the people of the State. The man was arrested and the incident forgotten.

However, things took a curious turn after a Hindi journalist tweeted two videos of murders, claiming that Tamils were targeting Hindi-speakers. DGP C. Sylendra Babu pointed out that the murders in Coimbatore and Tiruppur – industrial cities with a large migrant population – were not ethnic hate crimes. In one case, the victim and the accused were Tamils; in the other, both were north Indians.

Yet, some BJP leaders from Bihar claimed that the people of their State were being selectively targeted. What cannot be overlooked is that this charge came soon after Bihar Deputy Chief Minster Tejashwi Yadav shared a platform with Mr. Stalin where the latter gave a clarion call for a Congress-inclusive united opposition to take on the BJP in next year's Lok Sabha polls.

The politicising of an imagined targeted attack on Biharis begs some answers. Just as a north Indian often fails to differentiate between a Tamil and a Malayali, it is equally challenging for Tamils to distinguish between Biharis and people from U.P. How then could they have selectively attacked Biharis? Why were such political concerns not raised in BJP-ruled U.P.?

The political construct branding Tamil Nadu as being hostile to native Hindi speakers drew sharp criticism from Mr. Stalin, who acknowledged that migrant labourers are integral to the State's development. "Those who spread rumours that migrant workers are being attacked in Tamil Nadu are against the Indian nation; they cause harm to the integrity of the country," he declared. This was reassuring to the migrants. It is hoped that the issue will die down as the State balances its image of *Vandhorai Valavaikkum Tamizhagam* (Tamil Nadu provides livelihood for guests) while remaining steadfast in its opposition to the "imposition" of Hindi or uniformity.

Small debris orbiting Earth pose threats to space assets

Close to 14,000 "trackable" fragmented space debris are orbiting Earth right now

DATA POINT

Vignesh Radhakrishnan & Rebecca Rose Varghese

On March 7, 2023, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully carried out a controlled re-entry for the decommissioned Megha-Tropiques-1 (MT1). The satellite, launched more than a decade ago, was designed to study clouds in the tropical regions of the world. It was expected to make a final impact in the Pacific Ocean.

ISRO said the satellite was brought down as a part of its commitment to reduce space debris, especially in the much-crowded Low Earth Orbit (LEO). Orbital debris is not just India's problem. All the countries and several private companies which have invested billions of dollars in space assets need innovative solutions to tackle the issue.

This month, the U.S. Space Command released eight "tenets of responsible behaviour in space." One of the tenets was to dispose of satellites which have reached their end-of-life, to limit space debris. The planned crash of MT1 is a case in point.

The surging number of rocket launches and the increasing number of payloads carried in recent years have made the space junk problem acute, especially after private companies such as SpaceX launched thousands of satellites to provide Internet access. In 2022, over 2,160 objects were launched into space, about 300 more than 2021 and 900 more than 2020.

Due to such a rapid increase, the number of rocket bodies and fragmented debris in space has also increased over time as shown in **Chart 1**. The number of satellites in space crossed the 10,000-mark in 2023. This includes active satellites as well as defunct ones which are still orbiting Earth. The number of fragmentation debris is hurtling towards the 14,000-mark.

While satellite launches are the reason for the rise in rocket bodies orbiting Earth, fragmented debris are mostly a consequence of collisions and Anti-Satellite (ASAT) missile tests. The fragmented junk poses a bigger challenge as tracking debris smaller than 10 centimetres is tough.

Chart 2 shows the 13,953 debris that are orbiting Earth and the countries responsible for them. Close to 35% originated from the Soviet Union/Russia, 31% from the U.S., and 29% from China. Over 2,700 pieces of debris from a Chinese anti-satellite test in 2007, marked as the single worst contamination of space in history, are still in orbit.

India's contribution is 0.5%. India added to the problem in 2019 by testing an ASAT missile which targeted a live satellite in LEO. It resulted in 400 pieces of orbital debris and invited criticism. The then NASA head Jim Bridenstine termed it as a "terrible thing" as it posed threats for astronauts aboard the International Space Station (ISS). While all the "trackable" debris from India's test have re-entered Earth in subsequent years, over 50 pieces from a break-up event of the 4th stage of PSLV-C3 in 2001 are still in orbit.

While debris has the potential to cause serious accidents, the cost of manoeuvres to avoid collisions is high. In 2022, ISS had to conduct two such collision avoidance manoeuvres due to threats posted by debris from Russia's ASAT test in 2021. Such manoeuvres are costly as they require hours of monitoring, fuel for movement, and also result in loss of data as instruments are turned off during such operations.

India conducted 21 such corrections for its satellites in 2022, the highest ever for the country, as shown in **Chart 3**. Also, in 2021, ISRO monitored 4,382 events in LEO and 3,148 events in geostationary orbit (GEO) in which debris or other space objects came close to India's space assets.

Space junk

The charts are based on data sourced from the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Space-track and Orbital debris quarterly news

Chart 1: The chart shows the increase in various types of space objects over the years

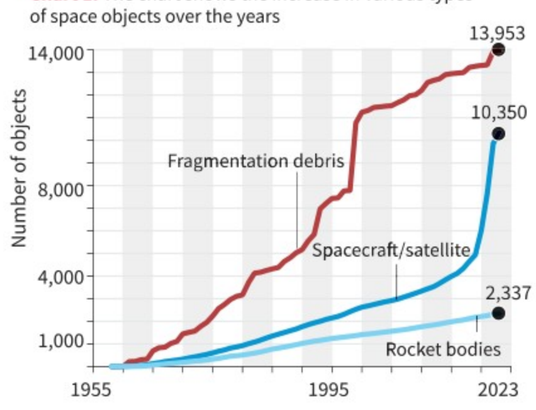


Chart 3: The chart shows the collision avoidance manoeuvres carried out by India to bypass orbital debris

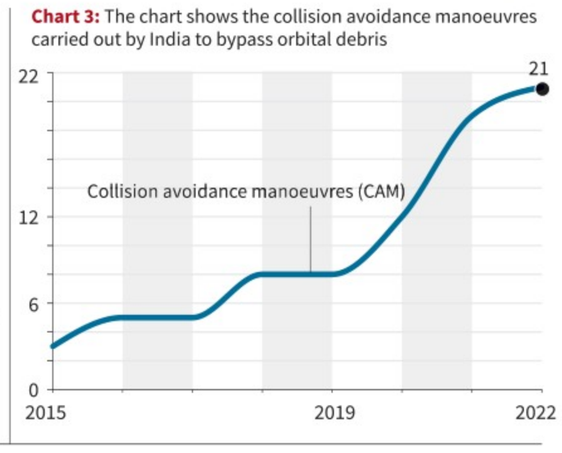
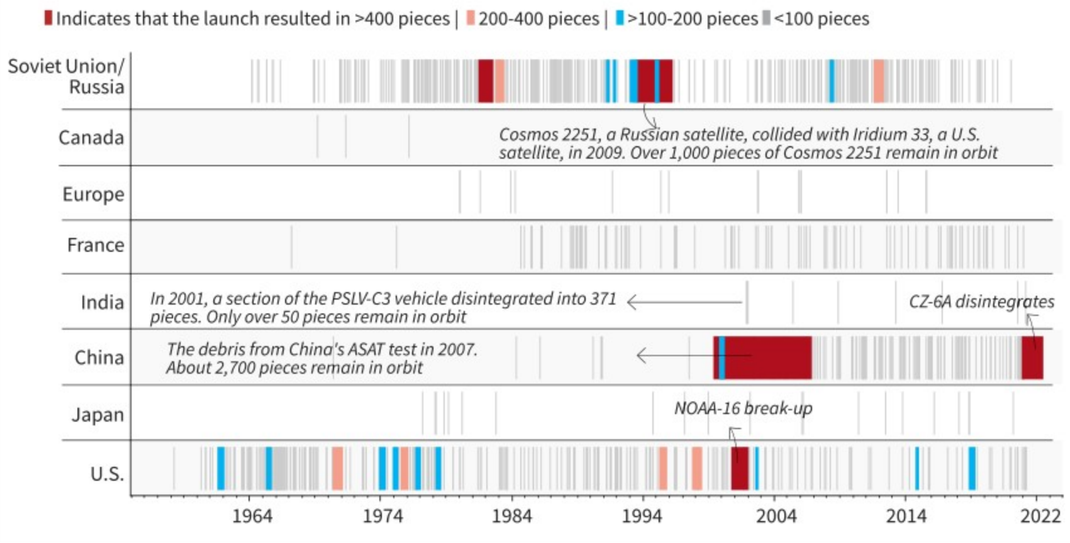


Chart 2: The charts show the number of debris orbiting Earth and the countries responsible for them. Each vertical line corresponds to at least one debris fragment. The wider the line, the higher the number of debris fragments connected to a specific launch


Indicates that the launch resulted in >400 pieces | 200-400 pieces | >100-200 pieces | <100 pieces
Soviet Union/ Russia
Canada
Europe
France
India
China
Japan
U.S.
Cosmos 2251, a Russian satellite, collided with Iridium 33, a U.S. satellite, in 2009. Over 1,000 pieces of Cosmos 2251 remain in orbit
In 2001, a section of the PSLV-C3 vehicle disintegrated into 371 pieces. Only over 50 pieces remain in orbit
CZ-6A disintegrates
The debris from China's ASAT test in 2007. About 2,700 pieces remain in orbit
NOAA-16 break-up
1964
1974
1984
1994
2004
2014
2022

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO MARCH 9, 1973

Death for wilfully wrecking trains

New Delhi, March 8: A Bill providing for death penalty for wilful wrecking of trains was introduced to the Lok Sabha to-day. The Indian Railways (Amendment) Bill, introduced by the Deputy Minister of Railways, Mr. Shafi Mohammad Qureshi, also provides for more stringent penalty for some of the other offences under the Railways Act. One of the provisions in the Bill seeks to remove lacuna relating to recovery of cancellation charges on tickets. Chapter seven of the Act is proposed to be suitably amended to secure prompt relief in the shape of interim payment of compensation in cases of accidents to trains carrying passengers. This interim payment would be taken into consideration by the Claims Commissioners in making the final settlement of compensation. The statement of objects of the Bill says: "Experience has shown that the penal provisions for offences covered under Sections 47, 108, 118, 120A, 122 and 126 relating to carrying inflammatory articles in trains, unjustified pulling of the alarm chain, entraining or detraining in unauthorised places, unauthorised hawking, trespass and tampering with the railways track and wilful wrecking of trains, are not sufficiently deterrent. Considering that the incidence of such offences on the Railways has been increasing and is causing serious concern, the relevant penal provisions are sought to be made more stringent."

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO MARCH 9, 1923

Rubber trade

The question of Legislative restriction of rubber from Malaya and Ceylon was argued before the commercial committee of the House of Commons today. Mr. Hindi, Chairman of the India Rubber Association, on behalf of the manufacturers, contended that restriction placed a premium on inefficient administration of plantations. The reply to the contention that the planter was unable to produce rubber under seven pence half penny was that the planter had never tried. Mr. Tottenham on behalf of the growers denied that the administration of plantations was inefficient and ridiculed the idea that rubber could be produced at six pence.

From Page One

Narendra Modi and S.N. Arya at the swearing-in ceremony of State CM-designate Manik Saha. ANI/PIB

Manik Saha takes charge as Tripura CM

Some reports had earlier suggested that some of the newly elected TIPRA Motha MLAs had spoken with the party leadership on the need to participate in the government to ensure the development of the indigenous community.

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, one of three CMs from the northeast to attend the swearing-in, BJP chief J.P. Nadda and TIPRA Motha president Bijay Kumar Hrangkhawl attended the meeting.

RSS-linked old guards ignored

Four former Ministers – Ramprasad Paul, Bhagaban Das, Manoj Kanti Deb and Ram Pada Jamatia – did not find space in the new cabinet. All except Mr. Paul, a long-time BJP leader, are facing various charges.

The four new faces in the Council of Ministers are Sudhanshu Das, first-timer Tinku Roy and Bikash Debbarma from the BJP and Shulka Charan Noatia from the IPFT.

Some RSS-linked old guards in the BJP who were not accommodated are Union Minister of State Pratima Bhoumik, Rampada Jamatia and Kishore Barman.

The BJP is yet to decide whether Ms. Bhoumik will return to the Central ministry or continue to engage in State politics. She won the Dhanpur Assembly seat, a CPI(M) stronghold that former Chief Minister Manik Sarkar had won four times in a row.

Mr. Jamatia is a former chief of the third largest indigenous community in Tripura, while Mr. Barman had helped the BJP expand its footprint in West Bengal before returning to his home State in 2021. He won the Nalchar seat.

Australian PM hails Gandhian philosophy

Later in the evening, Mr. Albanese celebrated Holi at the Raj Bhavan in the State capital Gandhinagar. He was welcomed by Governor Acharya Devvrat and Chief Minister Patel at the Raj Bhavan by applying colour on his face as a mark of Holi celebrations, said a State government release. Mr. Albanese was accompanied by the High Commissioner of Australia.

The Australian leader's visit comes months after the interim trade pact – Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA) – came into force as the two sides also drew closer under the strategic Quad initiative. "Holi's message of renewal through the triumph of good over evil is an enduring reminder for all of us. No matter what your faith is or where you've come from, we celebrate and value what unites us," he said.

Mr. Albanese will be in Ahmedabad for two days and will be at the toss with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday for the fourth Test match between India and Australia.

Speaking to a radio channel ahead of his departure to India, Mr. Albanese said he had visited India in 1991 as a backpacker for six weeks and was not a stranger to spicy food.

Describing his delegation, Mr. Albanese said he would take Minister of Resources Madeleine King with him. "Twenty-five leading business people are going. The CEO of Wesfarmers from here, and Fortescue and the chair of BHP, Rio Tinto, they're all on their way," he added.

Educational ties

At an event organised by Deakin University in Ahmedabad, Mr. Albanese said Australia's educational ties with India would strengthen further. "We have finalised a deal that means students who study in Australia and India can have more of their qualifications recognised between our two countries."

Ahead of his visit, High Commissioner of Australia Barry O'Farrell had described education as the "largest service export from Australia to India".

"Deakin University will also become the first foreign university approved to open a campus in India, with more Australian universities hoping to join them. This is an exciting beginning for stronger educational, commercial and cultural relationships," Mr. Albanese said.

After Thursday morning's engagement at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad, Mr. Albanese is expected to leave for Mumbai and receive a Guard of Honour at the *INS Vikrant*. He is expected to arrive in the national capital in the evening. A ceremonial reception will be held for him at the Rashtrapati Bhavan on Friday morning following which he will hold delegation-level talks with Mr. Modi at Hyderabad House.

Mr. Albanese is expected to visit India again in September for the G-20 summit and will be the first Australian Prime Minister to visit India twice in a year.

(With PTI inputs)

Pak. remarks on Kashmir 'frivolous': India

Permanent Representative to the UN Ruchira Kamboj terms Pakistan FM Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's remarks baseless, politically motivated; says it is unworthy even to respond to such malicious propaganda; she also condemns violence against women, girls perpetrated by terrorists

Press Trust of India
UNITED NATIONS

India on Tuesday tore into Pakistan after its Foreign Minister raised the issue of Jammu and Kashmir at a Security Council debate on "Women, peace and security: Towards the 25th anniversary of Resolution 1325". India said it was "unworthy" even to respond to such "malicious and false propaganda".

India's Permanent Representative to the UN, Ruchira Kamboj, termed Pakistan Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's remarks "baseless and politically motivated".

"Before I conclude, let me dismiss the frivolous, baseless and politically motivated remarks made by the delegate of Pakistan regarding the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir," she said. "My delegation considers it unworthy to even respond to such malicious and false propaganda."

"Rather, our focus is where it shall always be – positive and forward-looking. Today's discussion is critically important to strengthen our collective efforts to accelerate the full implementation of the 'Women, peace and security' agenda. We respect the topic of the debate and recognise the importance of time. As such, our focus shall remain on the topic," she said.

The sharp retort came after Mr. Zardari referred to Jammu and Kashmir in his remarks to the debate held on the eve of International Women's Day.

Inclusion of women

Speaking at the open debate, Ms. Kamboj said that violence perpetrated by terrorists against women and girls remained rampant and should be strongly condemned while calling for the adoption of a zero-tolerance approach to all forms of terrorism.

She said member states should provide a conducive environment for the participation and inclusion of women in political processes and decision-making.

> Terrorism and extremism continue to be the biggest violators of human rights and a persistent threat to global peace
>
> **RUCHIRA KAMBOJ**
> UN Representative

"Terrorism and violent extremism continue to be the biggest violators of human rights and a persistent threat to global peace and security. Needless to say, women and girls suffer invariably and disproportionately," she said.

The Security Council adopted Resolution 1325 on women and peace and security in October 2000. The resolution reaffirms the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, peace negotiations, peacebuilding, peacekeeping, humanitarian response and post-conflict reconstruction and stresses the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security.

Women in Afghanistan

Addressing the debate, held under Mozambique's Presidency of the Council for March, she said: "To foster such an enabling environment, the principles of democracy, pluralism and the rule of law are essential prerequisites."

Referring to the situation in Afghanistan, Ms. Kamboj said India had been emphasising the importance of inclusive and representative governance in Afghanistan, with the meaningful participation of women in accordance with UNSC Resolution 2593, which was adopted under India's Presidency of the Council in August 2021.

The UN and regional organisations must assist national authorities, upon their request, in developing capabilities to strengthen their national legal frameworks and related institutional structures for ensuring accountability and checking the impunity of those perpetrating violence against women, she said. "Member states should also be provided support for capacity building in post-conflict situations to address meaningfully and institutionally the inequalities and violence faced by women, and to ensure their full participation in decision-making. A focus on women in peacebuilding efforts is crucial."

Stressing that women police officers and peacekeepers played an indispensable role in furthering the women, peace and security agenda in post-conflict situations, Ms. Kamboj said India welcomed efforts towards a uniformed gender parity strategy leading to an increase in the deployment of women peacekeepers. In January 2023, India, among the largest troop-contributing countries to UN peacekeeping missions, deployed a platoon of women peacekeepers in Abyei as part of the Indian Battalion in the United Nations Interim Security Force in Abyei, India's single largest deployment of women peacekeepers.

In 2007, India was the first country to deploy all-woman Formed Police Units in Liberia. These initiatives were reflective of New Delhi's intent to increase significantly the number of women in peacekeeping contingents, Ms. Kamboj said.

Traffic resumes on landslip-hit National Highway in Jammu

Press Trust of India
BANIHAL/JAMMU

Two-way traffic resumed on Wednesday on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway that was hit by a massive landslip in Ramban district the previous day, resulting in the death of one person and injuries to six commuters, officials said.

The strategic 270-km highway, the only all-weather road linking Kashmir with the rest of the country, was cleared of debris by road clearance agencies late on Tuesday night after nearly eight hours of hectic efforts.

"After clearing hundreds of stranded vehicles on Tuesday night, fresh light motor vehicles (LMVs) were allowed from both Jammu and Srinagar, while heavy motor vehicles were only allowed from Jammu to Srinagar this morning," a Traffic Department official said on Wednesday.

The traffic was moving smoothly on the highway when reports were last received, he added.

A crane driver was killed and six members of a family were injured when two vehicles came under the landslip at Seri village near Ramban town around 2.30 p.m. on Tuesday.

The stranded vehicles were allowed to move towards their respective destinations around 10 p.m. on Tuesday after the clearance of the debris.

Festive beat

Guest of honour: U.S. Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo tries her hand at a drum during Holi celebrations at the residence of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh. Union Ministers Piyush Goyal and Anurag Thakur are seen. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

J&K Police baton-charge protesters seeking ban on firm conducting test

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR/JAMMU

The Jammu and Kashmir Police on Wednesday detained several job aspirants who were protesting against the administration's move to allow Aptech Ltd., which has been blacklisted in some States, to conduct computer-based selection tests for the posts of junior engineers and sub-inspectors in the Union Territory (U.T). The police also used force to quell street demonstrations in Jammu city.

Hundreds of job aspirants held a protest in Jammu, questioning the administration's decision. Similar protests were held in other parts of J&K, including summer capital Srinagar.

"Why is the future of hundreds of job aspirants being put into the hands of those who lack credibility? We demand justice," said a protester in Jammu.

The J&K Police used batons against demonstrators and detained several protesters, some of whom were raising anti-government slogans in Jammu.

The J&K Service Selection Board (JKSSB) is facing a credibility crisis after four major selection processes held since 2019 were marred by allegations of irregularities and even resulted in the cancellation of selection lists. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is already investigating the allegations of paper leak during the sub-inspector examination held last year.

Job aspirants stage a protest in Srinagar demanding a ban on Aptech Ltd. in conducting recruitment exams. ANI

Meanwhile, the images of protesters being thrashed have further agitated the job aspirants and also attracted criticism from J&K's political parties.

"I condemn, in the strongest possible terms, the use of force and lathi charge against students and JKSSRB aspirants. These youngsters were exercising their democratic right to protest against the recent decision to engage a blacklisted firm Aptech by JKSSRB," former Chief Minister and National Conference vice-president Omar Abdullah said.

Condemning the use of force against protesters, former Chief Minister and Peoples Democratic Party president Mehbooba Mufti said, "Officers involved in this scam must be dealt with strictly. This government is making all efforts to snatch jobs from people. The use of force against job aspirants is unfortunate and condemnable."

CPI(M) leader M.Y. Tarigami said the use of force was "highly deplorable". "Giving a contract for conducting exams to a company accused of being involved in venal practices is without reason," Mr. Tarigami said.

Peoples Conference chief Sajad Lone said, "Who would order the use of force against young students? Have some shame. You would probably have children at home of the same age group."

The JKSSB is scheduled to conduct a computer-based written test (CBT) for various posts between March 16 and April 5 to fill over 1,265 posts. The JKSSB will put in place a multi-layered structure for supervision at examination centres and the J&K Police shall deploy security personnel for frisking and maintenance of law and order at each venue and location, the government has said.

"The CBT shall be conducted under CCTV surveillance for maintaining transparency in the examination. Besides, low frequency jammers are being installed in all the examination centres to prevent the use of unfair means including cheating using bluetooth and wi-fi enabled electronic devices," a spokesperson said.

Economic growth in Maharashtra likely to be 6.8% for 2022-23

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

This year's projected economic growth is significantly lower than the 9.1% seen in 2021-22

Maharashtra's economy is expected to grow by 6.8% in 2022-23 against the projected 7% growth of the Indian economy, according to the State's annual Economic Survey, tabled by Deputy Chief Minister and Finance Minister Devendra Fadnavis in the Assembly on Wednesday.

However, the projected growth for this year is significantly lower than the 9.1% growth witnessed in 2021-22.

The report, which was tabled a day ahead of the State budget, also said that Maharashtra's 14% share in the national nominal GDP is the highest among all States.

In the current fiscal year, the agriculture and allied activities sector is expected to grow by 10.2%, slower than the 11.4% growth seen the previous year. Services growth for 2022-23 is projected at 6.4%, a drastic drop from the 10.6% growth for the previous year.

However, the industrial sector is expected to grow 6.1% this year, much faster than the 3.8% growth witnessed in 2021-22.

As per advanced estimates, the nominal (at current prices) Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) for 2022-23 is expected to be ₹35.27 lakh crore, and the real (at constant 2011-12 prices) GSDP is expected to be more than ₹21.65 lakh crore.

Higher income

As per the advanced estimates, the State's per capita income for 2022-23 is expected to be ₹2.42 lakh, against ₹2.15 lakh the previous year. Maharashtra stood fifth in terms of per capita income in 2021-22, when Karnataka led the States with a per capita income of ₹2.79 lakh.

The average Consumer Price Index for rural and urban areas in the State was 350.8 and 334.9 respectively from May to December 2022, while year-on-year inflation was 8.1% for rural areas and 7.3% for urban areas.

Integrated medicine system to alter future of disease management

SPECIAL

Soma Basu
NEW DELHI

Using yoga as an additional treatment can help patients suffering from migraine headaches and from syncope, according to two papers recently published in the prestigious journals of the American College of Cardiology and the American Academy of Neurology.

The cardiology journal (2021) says that using yoga as an adjunctive therapy is superior to standalone therapy in reducing the symptomatic burden and improving the quality of life in patients with recurrent vasovagal syncope, which is a sudden drop in heart rate and blood pressure leading to fainting. The neurology journal states that yoga as an add-on therapy for migraine patients is superior to medical therapy alone, and suggests that it may be useful to integrate a cost-effective and safe intervention like yoga into the management of migraine.

These are two of the 21 papers – published recently in international scientific journals – that have generated renewed enthusiasm about yoga in the global medical fraternity. It is also a step towards validating such evidence-based integrative medicine and its imperative need in the future, giving credence to the clinical trials that have been going on at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Delhi, for the past six years.

Clinical trials

In a unique collaboration, 19 departments at AIIMS – including cardiology, gastroenterology, pulmonology, internal medicine, neurology, psychiatry, gynecology, community, oncology – are collectively working to identify areas of need where allopaths find modern medicines wanting and feel that the addition of a traditional medicine could provide relief to patients. Even before the Narendra Modi-led Central government began promoting yoga to bring it on the global health map, doctors at AIIMS had already started their clinical trials in 2012 to find out how yoga could deliver.

In 2016, the Centre for Integrative Medicine & Research (CIMR) was established within the AIIMS-Delhi campus under the Ayush Centre of Excellence programme, where proper scientific research on yoga began for the first time in the country. Small breakthroughs and mid-way results from the cardiology, neurology, pulmonology and gynaecology departments have now been released and are getting verified by peer groups and international medical journals.

Though yoga has been practised traditionally in India for centuries, the objective of the AIIMS initiative is to bring it under an official protocol to provide clinical services to treat various health conditions

Work in progress: Scientific research on yoga began for the first time in the country at the centre at AIIMS-Delhi. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

with an integrated medical system in place, according CIMR head Gautam Sharma, a cardiology professor at AIIMS. He said that new guidelines to combine mainstream and alternative medicines and therapy in ways that work best for the patient would soon be drafted based on the institute's findings.

'Integral to healthcare'

A senior officer of the Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare said that traditional Ayurveda, homeopathy and yoga are not "alternative" medicine as they are often termed, but are rather "integral to healthcare". The scientific findings from the AIIMS research is expected to align with the Centre's plan to roll out a "One Nation, One Health System" policy by 2030.

Traditionally, yoga is known to resist the autonomic changes and impairment of cellular immunity but modern medicine demands proof of clinical efficacy and safety. Hence, the CIMR team, that has been given sanction to hire yoga and Ayurveda physicians, (earlier the AIIMS Act, Rules & Notifications did not provide for hiring yoga therapists) is also using the latest modern techniques, such as MRIs and PET scans, and multiple objective research methods to authenticate these traditional systems of medicine.

In a special 2021 issue of *Medicina*, the scientific journal of the Lithuanian University of Health Sciences, a paper on 'The Future of Medicine' states that integrative medicine is no longer just a possibility but a necessity. Despite advances in modern medicine, contemporary society has experienced a series of epidemics and pandemics of non-communicable, chronic, communicable and infectious diseases. These public health crises are related, at least in part, to behaviour and lifestyle, the paper said.

The World Health Organization is now developing standards for the implementation of Ayurveda, yoga, traditional Chinese medicine, meditation, herbal medicines, nutritional supplements, movement therapies, and other mind-body practices, terming them as Traditional Integrative Complementary Medicine (TCIM) that focuses on the "whole person" to achieve optimal health and healing.

The multiple studies at CIMR have so far revealed the potential benefits of simple, cost-effective yoga in patients with heart failure, rhythm disorders and those recovering from heart attacks. Patients suffering from depression, sleep disturbances, diabetes, blood pressure and episodic migraine have reported improvement in frequency, intensity and impact of their ailments, while prenatal yoga is helping pregnant women to stay calm to changes that take place in the body during pregnancy. The yoga programme includes slow and deep breathing exercises, relaxation techniques and yogic postures that influence the autoimmune nervous system, and improve the mindset and quality of life of patients.

The 10-year study at AIIMS is still a work in progress, supported and funded by the Ayush Ministry, the Departments of Biotechnology and Science & Technology, and the Indian Council of Medical Research. The AIIMS scientific community is currently investigating the clinical efficacy, mechanisms of action, protocols and policy implications of integrative medicine.

"The cost of modern healthcare is high and many drugs have side effects that compel about 10% of people to stop using them. An integrated approach will help doctors choose the best management options to combat the challenges of diseases in future," Dr. Sharma said.

Integrated medicine is an idea whose time has perhaps come.

Centre will work to further women's empowerment: Modi

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

On International Women's Day, Prime Minister Narendra Modi lauded the role of women in the country's progress, and said his government would keep working to further their empowerment.

"We greatly cherish the role of women in India's progress," Mr. Modi said in a tweet. "Our government will keep working to further women empowerment," he said using the hashtag "Nari Shakti for New India".

The Prime Minister also shared on Twitter a compilation of women achievers whose life journeys were chronicled in his monthly radio address, *Mann Ki Baat*.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh recalled the glorious contributions of "Nari Shakti" in all walks of life. "The government under the leadership of PM Narendra Modi is relentlessly working towards women empowerment through its various effective schemes and programmes," he said.

"From being operationally deployed in Siachen, the highest battlefield in the world, to being posted on warships, Indian women are breaking barriers in almost every field in the armed forces," Mr. Singh said in a tweet.

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said, "On International Women's Day, applaud the efforts and the accomplishments of our Nari Shakti."

AAP raises concern over Sisodia's 'safety' inside jail

AAP leaders allege that former Deputy CM has been kept with criminals despite court approval to keep him in a 'Vipassana' cell; jail authorities deny charges, and term them unfounded

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Aam Aadmi Party on Wednesday expressed concern over former Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia's "safety" inside the jail, and alleged that he was being kept with criminals, a charge denied by the prison authorities.

AAP national spokesperson Saurabh Bharadwaj alleged that Mr. Sisodia is being kept with criminals in the jail and had been refused the "Vipassana" cell. "There was a request for Manish Sisodia to be kept in the Vipassana cell of the jail and it was approved by the court. Despite the court's approval, Mr. Sisodia has been kept with other criminals in jail number 1. The Centre must answer why are they doing this," Mr. Bharadwaj said.

Former Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia being taken to Rouse Avenue Court from the CBI headquarters on Monday. ANI

Senior AAP leader Sanjay Singh lashed out at the BJP and the Union government, and alleged that they had been "misusing" the Central agencies such as the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the Enforcement Directorate (ED).

He further said: "Manish Sisodia has been kept with dangerous criminals inside the jail and we are worried that his life might be at risk there".

Rejecting the AAP's allegations as "unfounded", the Delhi Prison authorities on Wednesday said Mr. Sisodia had been lodged in a ward of Central Jail No. 1 of Tihar where there were a minimum number of inmates and no gangsters.

"All the arrangements, as per jail rules, are in place to ensure his safety and security. Any aspersions cast about his lodgings is unfounded," an official added.

Will reverse decisions that are not in interest of J&K people: Altaf

Press Trust of India
SRINAGAR

Apni Party president Altaf Bukhari on Wednesday promised to reverse all decisions of the Jammu and Kashmir administration which are not in the interest of the people if his party is voted to power.

Interacting with press-persons after a function here to celebrate the party's third foundation day, he said that if his party forms the government after the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly election, whenever it is held, decisions such as imposition of property tax would be reversed. While municipalities need money to carry out development activities, the administration should not have imposed property tax yet. They should have waited for the economic situation to improve in the Union Territory, he said. Mr. Bukhari said his party is ready for elections and, in a democracy, people have the right to elect their own government.

"The time has come that the people of J&K be given this right and our attempts to raise this issue whether here or in Delhi will continue," he said.

On the issue of protests against the Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board by job aspirants, Mr. Bukhari said his party supports them and appealed to J&K Lieutenant-Governor Manoj Sinha to cancel the contract of the firm Aptech to conduct written tests for recruitment for various posts.

CHENNAI METRO RAIL LIMITED
(A Joint Venture of Govt. of India & Govt. of Tamil Nadu)
METROS, Anna Salai,
Nandanam, Chennai - 600 035

E-Tender Notice
e-procurement tender - National Competitive Bidding
E-Tender No: CMRL /CON/CORR-5/CP28A-OCC/2023

CMRL invites digitally signed tender through e-procurement portal from reputed, experienced, financially sound, eligible applicants, who fulfill the qualification criteria as mentioned in the tender through National Competitive Bidding under Single Stage Two Envelope (Technical & Financial) with initial filter system for the works as detailed below

E-Tender No : CMRL /CON/CORR-5/CP28A-OCC/2023 Design and Construction of Operation Control Centre (OCC) at Madhavaram Depot including Civil, Architecture, MEP, VAC, and all Associated works.
For further details, please visit :
For NIT : **www.chennaimetrorail.org**
For Downloading Bid Documents : **https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app**

DIPR / 1549 / TENDER / 2023
Director (Project)
சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம் சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்

भारत सरकार - अंतरिक्ष विभाग / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA - DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण समूह, एसडीएससी-शार / CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP, SDSC-SHAR
श्रीहरिकोटा, आं.प्र. / SRIHARIKOTA - 524124

संक्षिप्त ई–निविदा सूचना / Brief E-TENDER NOTICE

सं.शार:सीएमजी सिविल:अनुरक्षण:ई–जन निविदा / **No:SHAR:CMGCIVIL:MAINT:E-PT-22/22-23** तिथि/Date. 07.03.2023

भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से **"स्वर्णमुखी नगर तथा पिनाकिनी नगर कॉलोनियों में सिविल कार्यों के लिए सावधि संविदा"** (टी/सी-22-107, अनुमानित लागत ₹80.00 लाख), **"पुलिकट नगर कॉलोनी में सिविल कार्यों के लिए सावधि संविदा"** (टी/सी-22-108, अनुमानित लागत ₹80.00 लाख) **"एसएमपीसी की इकाई–1 में बीटी सड़क के पुनर्निर्माण का कार्य"** (टी/सी-22-109, अनुमानित लागत ₹34.23 लाख), **"एसएमपीसी की इकाई–2 के एचआईएल–01 भवन की रंगाई पुताई"** (टी/सी-22-110, अनुमानित लागत ₹15.72 लाख), **"एसएमपीसी, इकाई–2 की संचकन सुविधा–01 में पांच परतों वाला जल रोधन उपचार कार्य"** (टी/सी-22-111, अनुमानित लागत ₹14.45 लाख), **"सतीश धवन अंतरिक्ष केंद्र शार के पीआईएफ पथ पर माइक्रो कंकरीट का कार्य"** (टी/सी-22-112, अनुमानित लागत ₹6.45 लाख) हेतु मद दर ई–निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। निविदा दस्तावेजों को **24.03.2023** को **14:30** बजे तक डाउनलोड किया जा सकता है। विस्तृत सूचना हेतु इच्छुक निविदाकार हमारी वेबसाइट **www.isro.gov.in** या **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO** पर जाएं।

On behalf of President of India, Item Rate tenders are invited through e-tendering for **"Term Contract for Civil works @ SMN & PNN Colonies"** (T/C-22-107, Est .cost ₹80.00 Lakhs); **"Term Contract for Civil works @ PCN Colony"** (T/C-22-108, Est. cost ₹80.00 Lakhs); **"Resurfacing BT road work @ SMPC Unit-01"** (T/C-22-109, Est. cost ₹34.23 Lakhs) **"Painting of HIL-01 bldg @ SMPC Unit-02"** (T/C-22-110, Est. cost ₹15.72 Lakhs); **"Water proofing treatment works @ SMPC Unit-02"** (T/C-22-111, Est. cost ₹14.45 Lakhs); **"Microconcrete work @ PIF Track, SDSC SHAR"** (T/C-22-112, Est. cost ₹6.45 Lakhs)". Tender documents can be downloaded up to **24.03.2023**, **14:30** hrs. Interested tenderers may visit **www.isro.gov.in** or **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO** for details.

हस्ताक्षरित- समूह प्रधान, सीएमजी / एसडीएससी शार / **Sd/- GROUP HEAD, CMG / SDSC SHAR**

योजना तथा वास्तुकला विद्यालय, विजयवाडा
School of Planning and Architecture, Vijayawada
An Institute of National Importance, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India
Survey No.4/4, ITI Road, Vijayawada – 520 008, AP., India.

No.1.1/SPAV/Acad/PG/Admn/2023-24
NOTIFICATION FOR DIRECT ADMISSIONS FOR POST GRADUATE (MASTERS) PROGRAMMES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2023-24
SPA Vijayawada announces Direct Admission to Post Graduate Programmes in Architecture and Planning, under various categories. For further details, fees, admission and application process, please visit our website **www.spav.ac.in** **Sd/- Registrar**

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice
Tender No : T No.109&110/2022-23/SE/Q. JJM CWSS to Kunnathoor - Clear water Transmission main, supply errection and commissioning boosting pump set, constructing pump house and OHSR at Ambuvila in Kunnathoor panchayath, JJM Neduvathoor Package I - laying of DIK9 RWPM from well cum pump house at Thengolikkadavu to WTP at Ugrankunnu. **EMD :** Rs. 500000. **Tender fee :** Rs. 16540+2978 (18% GST - It will be paid by the contractor on reverse charge basis while filing his returns). **Last Date for submitting Tender :** 30-03-2023, 02:00 pm. **Phone :** 04742745293.
Website : **www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**
KWA-JB-GL-6-1774-2022-23 **Superintending Engineer, PH Circle, Kollam**

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice
Tender No : 113/2022-2023/KWA/ PHC/TVLA (Id-15830/2022), 106/2022-23/KWA/PHC/TVLA ((Rt-1), Id-10140/2022) JJM - 1) CWSS to Pallickal Panchayath - Laying distribution system providing 3300 FHTCs in Zone-4 (from Chakkanchiramala OH Tank) including road restoration works. 2) Augmentation of RWSS to Adichipuzha - Supplying and laying DI pumping main and gravity main and providing FHTCs at various wards in Vadasserikkara (500 Nos), Pazhavangadi (330 Nos), Naranammoozhy (1130 Nos), Perunadu (500 Nos) panchayaths including road restoration charges. **EMD :** Rs. 500000/ Each. **Tender fee :** Rs. 19518,19518. **Last Date for submitting Tender :** 29-03-2023, 02:00 pm. **Phone :** 04692600162.
Website : **www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**
KWA-JB-GL-6-1768-2022-23 **Superintending Engineer, PH Circle, Pathanamthitta**

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT,
PROJECTS CIRCLE, COIMBATORE

TENDER NOTICE
Tender Notice No.10 / 2022-2023 / SDO /
Dated:07.03.2023.

For and on behalf of Governor of Tamil Nadu **Item rate tender** in two cover system through online only will be received upto **11.04.2023, 11.00 hours** by the **Superintending Engineer (H) Projects Circle, Coimbatore for work under Railway Works Programme 2015-16 pertaining to Coimbatore (H) Projects Division.**

Details of work, approximate value of work, EMD, availability of tender documents and all other details will available in the Government website **https://tntenders.gov.in from 14.03.2023** If any changes / corrections in the tender, it will be published in the above Government website only.

Superintending Engineer (H),
Projects Circle,
Coimbatore - 43.

DIPR/1533/Tender/2023
"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம் சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்"

Rajiv Gandhi Housing Corporation Limited
8th Floor, E Block, Cauvery Bhavan, Bengaluru-560009,
Tele-: 080-23118888, Fax: 22247312, e-mail: cerghc@gmail.com

Date: 07.03.2023

Short Term Tender notification
(Through e-Procurement portal)

Rajiv Gandhi Housing Corporation Limited invites Short Term Tender for the 5 works for the construction of 1216 DU's through e-procurement from the eligible Contractors.

Name of work : Construction of 1216 [G+3] Multi storey Residential housing units in Government Land including infrastructures in a FIXED PRICE – NO VARIATION Contract in the places shown below in Bengaluru (Urban) District under **"1 Lakh Multi-Storey Bengaluru Housing Programme"** on Turn Key basis [Build, Operate and Transfer] under Two [stage] Cover System in **Work_Indent No.: RGRHCL:2022-23:OW:Work_Indent 108,109,110,111 & 112.**

Last date for submission of Bids: **21.03.2022 upto 16.00 hrs.**

For further information visit : **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** OR **O/o the Chief Engineer,** Rajiv Gandhi Housing Corporation Limited, Cauvery Bhavan, Bengaluru, Tele-: 080-23118888.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer,
Rajiv Gandhi Housing Corporation Limited,
Cauvery Bhavan, Bengaluru.

DIPR/DDU/AAPL/RO5134/22-23

SOUTHERN POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY OF TELANGANA LTD.
e-Procurement Tender Notice (Paper Notification)
TSSPDCL intends to float tenders for procurement of (a) 33KV 800A D/B AB Switches with insulators (b) GI Stay Wire 7/2.5 mm (12 SWG) (c) Fire extinguishers on e-tender platform. For further details of each item above, please visit **www.tssouthernpower.com, www.tender.telangana.gov.in.** Phone: 040-23431360, 1033,1035

Sd/- Chief General Manager (P&MM)
DIPR R.O.No.13093-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2022-23 Dt. 08-03-2023

TIDEL PARK LTD.
(An ISO 9001/14001 Company)
CIN No.U74999TN1997PLC039523
No.4, RAJIV GANDHI SALAI, TARAMANI, CHENNAI - 600 113
Ph: 044-22540500/501; Mail: tenders@tidelpark.com Web Site: www.tidelpark.com

Tender No: TIDEL/2022-2023/11
TIDEL Park invites "E-Tender for the proposed construction of IT Office Building Ground +4 Floors+Terrace including Civil Construction, HVAC, Electrical HT/LT, DG Sets, IBMS, Fire Protection, Plumbing, Structural Façade, Landscaping, STP, WTP & External Works in Meelavittan-II village, Thoothukudi Taluk & District".

For more details and participation in the above E-Tender, please visit the website **https:/www.tntenders.gov.in/.** Last date for online submission of duly filled in tender documents is **3.00 p.m. on 08.04.2023.** TIDEL Park Ltd reserves the right to accept /reject any one/all tenders without assigning any reason therefor.

DIPR/1578/TENDER/2023 **Managing Director**
சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம். சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்.

INBRIEF

Active COVID-19 cases cross the 3,000-mark after 67 days

India saw a single-day rise of 326 fresh coronavirus cases, while the active cases crossed the 3,000-mark after 67 days, according to Union Health Ministry data updated on Wednesday. The country's COVID-19 death toll stands at 5,30,775, while the active cases increased to 3,076. The infection tally reached 4,46,88,693. The active cases now comprise 0.01% of the total infections, while the national COVID-19 recovery rate has been recorded at 98.8%, according to the Health Ministry website. The number of people who has recuperated from the disease surged to 4,41,54,842, while the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.19%. PTI

Helicopter makes emergency landing off Mumbai: Navy

An Indian Navy Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH), on a routine sortie with three personnel on board, made an emergency landing off the coast of Mumbai on Wednesday, an official said. The crew was rescued by a naval patrol aircraft, the official added. "Indian Navy ALH on a routine sortie off Mumbai ditched close to the coast. Immediate search and rescue ensured the safe recovery of the crew of three by a naval patrol craft," the official said. "Ditching" refers to an emergency landing on water. PTI

Israeli PM Netanyahu extends Holi greetings to Modi

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Wednesday extended Holi greetings to Prime Minister Narendra Modi. "Happy Holi to my friend Prime Minister @narendramodi and the people of India!", Mr. Netanyahu said in a tweet. "May the vibrant colours of this festival fill your lives with happiness, joy, and prosperity. Wishing you all a colourful and memorable Holi," he added. In response, Mr. Modi extended his greetings to people of Israel on Purim. "Thank you my friend, PM @netanyahu for your special Holi wishes. I also wish you and the people of Israel a happy Purim. Chag Sameach!" Purim is a festival commemorating the survival of the Jews, who in the 5th century BC, were marked for death by their Persian rulers, as recounted in the Book of Esther. PTI

A move from within to close the gender gap in physics

SPECIAL

Vasudevan Mukunth
CHENNAI

More than 500 practitioners and students of physics have endorsed the Hyderabad Charter to address and resolve gender gaps in physics education and research in India as of International Women's Day this year. They include prominent researchers like Enakshi Bhattacharya, Somak Raychaudhury, Chayanika Shah, and Ashoke Sen.

The Hyderabad Charter was drafted by the Gender in Physics Working Group of the Indian Physics Association in 2019, during a national interdisciplinary conference organised at the University of Hyderabad, attended by physicists, sociologists, policymakers, educationists and government officials.

The charter has 10 guiding principles and 29 recommendations to physics departments, institutes, physics teachers, conference organisers and national agencies.

Introspection

The endorsements mark "a major shift because it shows that physicists of all genders are finally acknowledging that the barriers to gender equity are within physics itself, so we need to stop fixing the women and dismantle the systemic structural barriers instead", Prajval Shastri, the astrophysicist who led the effort to draft the charter, said in an email. "There are no more excuses for inaction within our institutions."

The charter notes that despite women winning half of the INSPIRE fellowships for physics, "the fraction of women with Ph.D.s in physics who are employed in tertiary education countrywide is just 20%, far less than in ... biology. That fraction plummets to 10% and lower in the elite research institutions, in leadership positions and in honours lists."

Skewed fraction: The number of women in physics dwindle as they move higher up the research field. FILE PHOTO

According to Bias Watch India, an initiative by researchers Vaishnavi Ananthanarayanan and Shruti Muralidhar to keep track of the fraction of women in various fields, only 13% of physics faculty members in India are currently women.

"The Hyderabad Charter is an excellent and thorough road map for us to follow and implement to create a level playing field for all," Shriharsh Tendulkar, a physicist with the Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, said.

The Working Group consisted of six working physicists and was led by Dr. Shastri, Emeritus Professor at the Raman Research Institute, Bengaluru. She created the Working Group in 2016. "The charter is not really meant to be adapted as a whole by institutions," Dr. Shastri said. "It is meant to start conversations and actions fine-tuned to their particular situation in the spirit of the charter."

At previous meetings of the group and other similar international events, women in physics in India have said systemic biases in academic publishing, gender-based discrimination, sexual harassment, lack of punishment for those guilty of misconduct, lack of interest among male peers and other issues are responsible for their dismal representation.

"There is already underrepresentation of all marginalised communities at every stage of physics that in itself propagates existing bias," Aratrika Dey, a Ph.D. student at the Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bengaluru, and signatory to the Hyderabad Charter, said. "Transparent hiring procedures and institutions investing in diversity officers would go a long way to redress that."

The charter's recommendations include "self-declaration of sexual misconduct indictments ... for staff applications", mandatory and preferably subsidised child-care facilities, "a sociology course on social processes in science practice [as] part of the graduate physics curriculum", and the use of fixed and explicit hiring criteria.

Assam, Maharashtra arrive at a plan to promote tourism

Trying to promote the State as a hub for film-making, Assam officials say there was a 511% and a 763% growth in the inflow of domestic and foreign tourists, respectively, in 2022 from 2021 figures

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

Assam recorded a growth of 763% in foreign tourist inflow and 511% in domestic tourist arrival in 2022 from the 2021 figures, officials said at an event in Mumbai to promote the State as film tourism-friendly.

An agreement was signed between the Assam Tourism Development Corporation and the Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation for the cross-promotion of tourism during the event organised on Monday to showcase Assam as an ideal destination for filming, apart from leisure, adventure and wildlife.

Vying for eyeballs: A Satriya dance recital at an event to promote Assam Tourism in Mumbai on Monday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

"Assam's tourism sector recorded a 511% and a 763% growth in the inflow of domestic and foreign tourists, respectively, in 2022 compared to 2021, according to January 2023 data," Assam Tourism Secretary Kumar Padmapani Bora said.

"In our New Tourism Policy, a special focus is on the ease of doing business and facilitating single-window clearance for film tourism. We are going to implement the policy aggressively and promote Assam as the ultimate film tourism destination," he said.

Participating in the event, Assam's Tourism Minister Jayanta Malla Baruah said the State government had been putting in a lot of effort into making Assam the most film tourism-friendly State. "We shall be providing necessary support to attract filmmakers," he said.

Tourism and business-related travel have made the Lokapriya Gopinath Bardoloi International Airport in Guwahati one of the busiest in the country, aviation officials said.

'Vision screening critical to National Road Safety Plan'

Maitri Porecha
NEW DELHI

With the Supreme Court-appointed Committee on Road Safety observing that there are 1.5 lakh annual deaths due to road crashes, leading eye health organisations are now calling for the inclusion of vision check-ups for drivers in the National Road Safety Plan.

While the package of preventive measures in the plan include wearing seat belts, reducing speed, road and intersection design, and not overloading, there is an urgent need to include vision correction activities for drivers of commercial vehicles in the plan, say leading non-profits in the eye healthcare space.

Huge challenge

Four non-profits – VisionSpring, India Vision Institute (IVI), Sightsavers India, and Mission for Vision – have screened up to 13.55 lakh commercial vehicle drivers, helpers, cleaners, mechanics and other transport workers.

"Providing eye health services to a floating population in a sustainable manner is a huge challenge and there is a need to build eye screenings into the National Road Safety Plan," they said in a joint statement.

The IVI screened 1.8 lakh commercial vehicle drivers and allied staff and found that nearly half of those requiring spectacles were first-time wearers, Vinod Daniel, CEO of IVI, said. "24% had trouble seeing distant objects, and over 2% had refractive errors over 2D, thus severely compromising their distance vision," he added.

About 24% of the 1.8 lakh drivers screened had trouble seeing distant objects.

"Mission for Vision's research among truckers shows that 45.8% had a refractive error, among whom 39.1% required correction for both near and distance vision in at least one eye," its CEO, Elizabeth Kurian, said.

While the Health Ministry has endorsed the move, it is now up to the Road Transport and Highways Ministry to include regular vision screening in its road safety activities. At present, eye check-up camps organised by the latter are more of a one-off activity, a senior official of the Ministry said.

IIT-B students reject interim report on Dalit student's death

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

The interim report released by the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay concluding that the death of a Dalit student Darshan Solanki, 18, was not caused by caste discrimination was "strongly rejected" by the Ambedkar Periyar Phule Study Circle (APPSC), a student body on campus, in a public statement issued on Tuesday midnight.

The APPSC said that the report was a "haunting reminder of denial of justice", just as it was in the case of Aniket Ambhore's death, another Dalit student who died by suicide at the IIT-Bombay in 2014.

And with student resentment building over the report, an Associate Professor at the institute has now also spoken out on the issue, highlighting the "déjà vu". In an email on Tuesday night to all faculty on campus, the Associate Professor asked, "What does one do with our monochromatic denialisms – denials of institutional responsibility, of casteism, of the need to take a hard look at ourselves and our campus culture?"

The students pointed out that the 12-member committee, was neither impartial, nor did it show "any marked competence" in investigation by appointing an external member.

JEE score

The students questioned how the panel had linked his interest in academics based on JEE Ranks, asking, "Is the committee not aware that JEE scores form the basis for discrimination in IITs?"

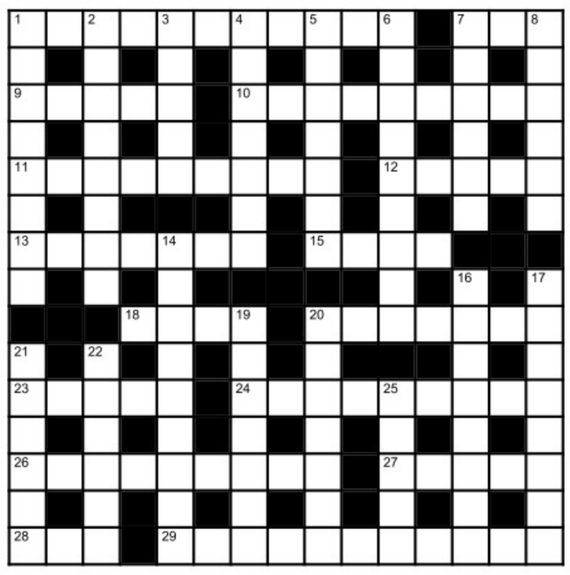
The student body called the interim report "the most unscientific document from a 'scientific institution'", and said that the committee never had any public terms of reference, nor was it revealed as to how it called for testimonies, how they were assessed and the tools to gauge their validity and reliability. It added that the panel had no external member, the representation of SC/ST members was less than 50%, students on the panel were not told that they had a right to dissent, no subject matter expert was consulted, disregarded his sister's statement, and did not consider possibility of implicit discrimination.

TH CROSSWORD + 13808

(set by Arden)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Cryptic clue - attends to one who is young at heart (11)
7 It's worn on top of the head but can go under the feet when turned around (3)
9 Top meal, no starter (5)
10 Six in list refused - will accept nothing but a musician (9)
11 Study on wear - transforming boy to girl (9)
12 Talk on land (5)
13 Animal on horseback came to this place - Did you hear that? (3,4)
15 Wrestling with maths problem, ending in zero (4)
18 Turn turtle soup (4)
20 Just behind an ex. PM in London (7)
23 Reject ugly things like stubble (5)
24 Horoscope covers fate - die finally in US city (9)
26 Borders on mostly set individualistic ideas - Mike supports such religious belief (9)
27 Old man crosses border first (5)
28 Strive to get 50% of the capital (3)
29 Bit of overreach to shift a beam (6,5)

Down

1 A line around midfield means playing the field (8)
2 Single one in Paris - united in support (8)
3 Approximately under top of tree trunk (5)
4 Enjoy sipping one with the guardian angel (7)
5 Hertz and Ampere perhaps spy on me strangely (7)
6 Flowing yet sticky, what is it? (9)
7 Attempt to collect one pound - it often goes to one's head (6)
8 Service mats, take home (6)
14 Last one was in front, now back with us - is saxifrage beginning to flower? (9)
16 Remote object is not much valued (8)
17 Ex President exposed - truth is man made (8)
19 Spirit of weekend, a country follows (7)
20 Ape's got a small rank (7)
21 Entry permit rejected, takes a second for a writer (6)
22 Fish relocated right into the water in Rhine (6)
25 Revers copy in between lines (5)

SUDOKU

			5			3	9	
1	5	3			9			
6			4					
	7		8	9			6	
		8		6		7		
	1			7	4		5	
					8			1
			6			2	8	7
	3	5			1			

No.SS5732 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

		C		F		D		O				A		
P	H	I	A	L		I	M	P	I	S	H	L	Y	
U		N		E		S		U		H		L		B
M	A	C	B	E	T	H		S	P	A	T	U	L	A
I		H		C		W				M		R		L
C	H	O	L	E	R	A		C	Y	P	R	E	S	S
E		N				S		O		O				A
		A	N	D	T	H	E	N	S	O	M	E		
O				E		E		F				C		A
G	R	A	M	M	A	R		L	O	T	U	S	E	S
I		S		I				U		R		T		C
V	O	Y	A	G	E	R		E	V	O	C	A	T	E
E		L		O		U		N		W		T		N
	C	U	L	D	E	S	A	C		E	D	I	C	T
		M				T		E		L		C		

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

8	4	9	7	2	3	5	6	1
7	3	5	1	9	6	4	2	8
6	1	2	4	8	5	7	3	9
1	9	8	6	4	2	3	7	5
4	5	6	3	7	8	1	9	2
2	7	3	5	1	9	8	4	6
9	2	1	8	3	4	6	5	7
3	6	7	2	5	1	9	8	4
5	8	4	9	6	7	2	1	3

FAITH

Lord Varadaraja described

When Brahma completed the Asvamedha yaga in Kanchi, Lord Varadaraja came out of the sacrificial fire and was hailed by devas and Nityasuris. They praised Him as the One who goes on processions in His vahanas like the elephant, horse and the chariot. He is a granter of boons and the only One who can confer moksha. The celestials and Nityasuris recalled His kindness in saving the elephant Gajendra, when its foot was grabbed by a crocodile.

In his 'Mei Viratha Manmiyam', Vedanta Desika describes Lord Varadaraja's magnificent appearance. His elaborate description covers every aspect of the Lord's divine form, from His head to His feet, said T.N. Aravamudachariar, in a discourse. Lord Varadaraja's crown shines like the Sun, says Desika. His face, however, is cool like the Moon. He wears makarams in His ears which are ornaments shaped like fish. These ornaments appear like two fishes facing each other, ready to do battle. His chest is the abode of Mahalakshmi. In His stomach, cetana (sentient) and acetana (non-sentient) are housed during the great deluge. His feet are the refuge of everyone. He is an oasis in the vast desert of samsara. He resides on Hastigiri, but is Himself like a huge mountain exerting pressure on Hastigiri. He is the brilliant light that expels the darkness of ajnana. He is the One sought by Brahma, He is the antaryami present in everyone. He is the nectar which His devotees want. When the ocean was churned, the devas wanted the nectar that came from it. But His devotees do not seek this nectar. Desika makes it clear that to His bhaktas, He alone is the nectar which is desirable. He is worshipped by the Vedas. Of such greatness is the Lord of Hastigiri.

SUVA

Ex-Fiji PM Bainimarama quits Parliament following suspension

REUTERS

Former Fijian Prime Minister Frank Bainimarama announced on Wednesday his resignation from the Pacific nation's Parliament, which had already suspended him for three years. Mr. Bainimarama said he had tendered his resignation "with immediate effect" but had no intention of resigning from politics. AFP

GENEVA

'Deeply concerned' over new U.K. asylum plan, says UN rights chief

AP

The UN rights chief, Volker Turk, criticised on Wednesday a British draft law that would outlaw asylum claims by anyone arriving in the country illegally, warning it would violate international law. Britain's government intends to outlaw asylum claims by all illegal arrivals in a bid to stop migrants from crossing the Channel. AFP

BEIJING

Better use of defence resources needed 'to win wars': Xi Jinping

GETTY IMAGES

China needs to improve its use of defence resources such as technology, supply chain and national reserves "to strengthen its Army and win wars", President Xi Jinping said on Wednesday. Mr. Xi is commander-in-chief of China's armed forces and is due to be formally re-elected as President later this week. REUTERS

KATHMANDU

Nepal to elect new President today; Poudel, Nembang vie for the post

AP

Nepal will get a new President on Thursday with Ram Chandra Poudel of the Nepali Congress and Subash Chandra Nembang of the CPN-UML vying for the post, an outcome which could impact the stability of the government headed by Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal "Prachanda". PTI

Pakistan police use tear gas, water cannon on Khan rally

Two dozen supporters of the former Prime Minister were arrested for defying a government ban on holding rallies; Khan condemned the use of 'massive police violence against unarmed' people

Associated Press
LAHORE

Raw rage: Supporters of Imran Khan throwing stones at the police during clashes in Lahore, Pakistan, on Wednesday. AP

Pakistani police used water cannons and fired tear gas to disperse supporters of the country's former Prime Minister Imran Khan on Wednesday in the eastern city of Lahore. Two dozen Khan supporters were arrested for defying a government ban on holding rallies, the police said.

The developments followed Mr. Khan's launching of provincial election campaigns on Tuesday for eastern Punjab and northwest Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province provinces, where the ex-premier's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party has held a majority in past rounds of voting.

Mr. Khan, now Opposition leader, was ousted in a no-confidence vote in Parliament last April. He has claimed his removal was illegal and has campaigned for early elections. The government of his successor, Shahbaz Sharif, has dismissed Mr. Khan's demands, saying the nationwide vote will take place as scheduled later in the year.

A senior leader from Mr. Khan's party, Hammad Azhar, said the police detained scores of their supporters ahead of the rally, which was to start in Lahore's upscale Zaman Park area where Mr. Khan lives.

'Massive violence'

The police swung batons and briefly fired tear gas on the road leading to Mr. Khan's house to disperse his supporters. TV footage showed at least one large truck spraying water, scattering protesters.

Mr. Khan, who was in his home at the time, condemned the use of "massive police violence against unarmed" people.

The 70-year-old former cricket star is embroiled in a string of court cases including terrorism charges. He has so far avoided arrest and claims the legal imbroglio has been orchestrated by the government in an attempt to silence him.

On Tuesday, he accused the government of being behind the 76 legal cases raised against him. Mr. Khan has also claimed, without providing evidence, that his removal was illegal and a conspiracy by Mr. Sharif and Washington. Both the United States and Pakistan's government have denied those allegations.

'Open road' for Russians if they capture Bakhmut, warns Zelensky

Agence France-Presse
KYIV

Explosive rain: Ukrainian soldiers firing a self-propelled howitzer towards Russian positions near Bakhmut. AP

Russia's Wagner mercenary group claimed on Wednesday to have captured the eastern bank of Bakhmut, the industrial town in east Ukraine where fighting between Russian and Ukrainian forces has raged for months.

The announcement came after Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky warned that if Bakhmut fell, Moscow would gain an "open road" for offensives deeper into the country.

Wagner chief and Kremlin ally Yevgeny Prigozhin said on social media that his forces "have taken all of the eastern part of Bakhmut", a salt-mining town with a pre-war population of 80,000.

The intense fighting around Bakhmut has been the longest and bloodiest in Russia's more than year-long invasion, which has devastated swathes of Ukraine and displaced millions of people.

Mr. Zelensky warned in an interview with *CNN* what could happen if Bakhmut falls to Russian forces. "We understand that after Bakhmut, (Russian forces) could go further" and attack nearby cities in the Donetsk region. "They could go to Kramatorsk, they could go to Sloviansk, it would be an open road for the Russians after Bakhmut to other towns in Ukraine, in the Donetsk direction," Mr. Zelensky said in an interview set to air on Wednesday. Wagner has spearheaded the attack on Bakhmut. Russian Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu told military officials during a televised meeting on Tuesday that taking control of the city would allow for "further offensive operations" in eastern Ukraine.

Ukraine's defence

Mr. Prigozhin estimated the day before that between "12,000 and 20,000" Ukrainian troops were still defending the town. Mr. Zelensky told *CNN* that his armed forces were resolved to stay in Bakhmut. "Of course, we have to think about the lives of our military. But we have to do whatever we can whilst we're getting weapons, supplies, and our Army is getting ready for the counter-offensive."

EU Defence Ministers were meeting in Stockholm to discuss a plan to rush €1 billion worth of ammunition to Ukraine.

Meanwhile, NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg warned that Bakhmut may fall into Russian hands in the coming days.

"What we see is that Russia is throwing more troops, more forces and what Russia lacks in quality they try to make up in quantity," Mr. Stoltenberg told reporters in Stockholm on the sidelines of the EU meeting. "They have suffered big losses, but at the same time, we cannot rule out that Bakhmut may eventually fall in the coming days."

Women rally in Pakistan after legal challenges

Agence France-Presse
LAHORE

United stregth: Activists of *Aurat* March taking part in a rally to mark the International Women's Day in Lahore on Wednesday. AFP

Thousands of women took part in rallies across Pakistan on Wednesday despite efforts by authorities in several cities to block the divisive marches.

Known as the *Aurat* (women) March, the rallies have courted controversy because of banners and placards waved by participants that raise subjects such as divorce, sexual harassment and menstruation.

"The whole point of the *Aurat* March is to demand the security and safety that women are not afforded in this country and society," said Rabail Akhtar, a schoolteacher who joined a crowd of around 2,000 in Lahore on Wednesday, which was also International Women's Day.

Many held banners in support of Afghan women across the border who have had their rights stripped away by the Taliban government.

The *Aurat* March is seen by critics as supporting elitist and Western cultural values in the Muslim country, with organisers accused of disrespecting religious and cultural sensitivities.

Much of Pakistani society operates under a strict code of "honour", systemising the oppression of women in matters such as the right to choose who to marry, reproductive rights and even the right to an education.

Sabotage of Nord Stream pipeline 'not our activity': Ukraine

Agence France-Presse
STOCKHOLM

The Times report said the U.S. officials had no evidence implicating Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky in the pipeline bombing

The Ukrainian government was not involved in the sabotage last year of the Nord Stream gas pipelines in the Baltic Sea, the country's Defence Minister said on Wednesday.

"This is not our activity," Defence Minister Oleksiy Reznikov told reporters in Stockholm ahead of a meeting with EU defence ministers, in response to a report in *The New York Times* on Tuesday that the U.S. officials had seen new intelligence indicating a "pro-Ukrainian group" was responsible for the sabotage.

The Times report said the U.S. officials had no evidence implicating Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky in the pipeline bombing, and it did not identify the source of the intelligence or the group involved.

But the attack benefitted Ukraine by severely damaging Russia's ability to sell natural gas.

The intelligence suggested that the perpetrators behind the sabotage were "opponents of President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia", the *Times* report said.

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike
Office of the Executive Engineer, Rajarajeshwari Nagara Division,
BBMP Office, Near Chowdeshwari Bus Stop, Mathikere, Bengaluru-560054.

No.RRND/EE/Tend/14/2022-23 Date: 08-03-2023

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Short Term Tender Notification)
(Two Cover Tender) (Through GOK e-Procurement Portal Only)

The Executive Engineer, Rajarajeshwari Nagara Division, BBMP, Bengaluru, invites item rate tenders from the eligible contractors registered with BBMP/CPWD/KPWD/Railways/MES/National Highway or any State Government Organisations for the construction of work detailed in the table below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work & Category	Estimate cost (₹. in Lakhs)	EMD (in ₹.)
1.	Desilting and Removal of Debris in Jalahalli Old Ward No.16 in R R Nagar Constituency **(Others).**	100.00	2,00,000/-
2.	Desilting and Removal of Debris in J P Park Old Ward No.17 in R R Nagar Constituency **(Others).**	100.00	2,00,000/-
3.	Desilting and Removal of Debris in Yeshwanthpura Old Ward No.37 in R R Nagar Constituency **(Others).**	100.00	2,00,000/-
4.	Desilting and Removal of Debris in HMT Old Ward No.38 in R R Nagar Constituency **(Others).**	100.00	2,00,000/-
5.	Desilting and Removal of Debris in Lakshmidevinagar Old Ward No.42 in R R Nagar Constituency **(Others).**	100.00	2,00,000/-
6.	Desilting and Removal of Debris in Laggere Old Ward No.69 in R R Nagar Constituency **(Others).**	100.00	2,00,000/-
7.	Desilting and Removal of Debris in Kottigepalya Old Ward No.73 in R R Nagar Constituency **(Others).**	100.00	2,00,000/-
8.	Desilting and Removal of Debris in Jnanabharathi Old Ward No.129 in R R Nagar Constituency **(Others).**	100.00	2,00,000/-
9.	Desilting and Removal of Debris in Rajarajeshwarinagar Old Ward No.160 in R R Nagar Constituency **(Others).**	100.00	2,00,000/-
10.	Improvements to Existing Food Court area in J P Park in R R Nagar Constituency	100.00	2,00,000/-
11.	Improvements to Parking Area at Gate No.2 in J P Park in R R Nagar Constituency **(Others).**	100.00	2,00,000/-
12.	Improvements to Play Ground in Old Ward No.17 in R R Nagar Constituency **(Others).**	100.00	2,00,000/-
13.	Improvements to Kalyani Surroundings in Old Ward No.17 in R R Nagar Constituency **(Others).**	100.00	2,00,000/-
14.	Providing security Grill, repairs of damaged portions, Painting and other works in J P Park in R R Nagar Constituency **(Others).**	100.00	2,00,000/-
15.	Providing New Walk Way, Grills and other works in J P Park in R R Nagar Constituency **(Others).**	100.00	2,00,000/-
16.	Improvements to Ladies Gym Area and Surroundings in J P Park in R R Nagar Constituency **(Others).**	100.00	2,00,000/-
17.	Improvements to Thalevana Area and Surroundings in J P Park in R R Nagar Constituency **(Others).**	100.00	2,00,000/-

Calendar of Events: (1) Tender documents may be downloaded from **10-03-2023. (2)** Last Date for submission of queries : **14-03-2023 upto 4:00 p.m. (3)** Pre-bid meeting will be held at Chief Engineer Office, R.R. Nagar Zone : **14-03-2023 at 4:30 p. m.(4)** Last Date for uploading the Filled Tender Document is **17.03.2023 upto 4:00 p.m. (5)** Date of Opening of Technical bid is **18-03-2023 at 4:30 p.m. (6)** Date of opening of Financial Bid will be intimated later. Further particulars can be obtained from the above office during working hours on working days or from **website: https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Rajarajeshwari Nagara Division, BBMP.

Beijing to revamp its science ministry

Agence France-Presse
BEIJING

China will conduct a sweeping revamp of its science ministry and tech capabilities, pouring more resources into manufacturing and research as Beijing pushes for self-reliance in the face of foreign attempts at "containment and suppression".

A broad restructuring document announced by China's cabinet on Tuesday and set to be approved by the country's Parliament this week will refocus the Ministry of Science and Technology's resources on coordinating scientific and technological breakthroughs.

Beijing will "optimise its management of the whole chain of science and technology innovation", the document said.

The country will also set up a national data administration responsible for overseeing the digital economy.

UN: Afghanistan is world's most repressive country for women

Associated Press
ISLAMABAD

Despite initial promises, the Taliban have imposed harsh measures since seizing power in 2021

Since the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan, the country has become the most repressive in the world for women and girls, deprived of many of their basic rights, the United Nations said on Wednesday.

In a statement released on the International Women's Day, the U.N. mission said that Afghanistan's new rulers have shown an almost "singular focus on imposing rules that leave most women and girls effectively trapped in their homes."

Despite initial promises of a more moderate stance, the Taliban government have imposed harsh measures since seizing power in August 2021. They have banned girls' education beyond sixth grade and women from public spaces such as parks and gyms. Women are also barred from working at national and international nongovernmental organizations and ordered to cover themselves from head to toe.

The Taliban government has said that some of the subjects being taught in universities were not in line with Afghan and Islamic values.

INBRIEF

'Volatility in steel prices to continue in medium term'

The volatility in steel prices is likely to continue in the medium term due to the impact of geopolitical situation on supply-chain logistics, according to SteelMint. Last week, steel makers increased the prices of hot-rolled coil (HRC) by ₹1,400 to ₹60,700 per tonne from ₹59,300 a tonne on February 22, the research firm said. In the last six months, the steel prices have not been stable. The user industry has been witnessing price revisions on a weekly basis. PTI

Aurobindo arm gets U.S. FDA nod for cancer drug copy

Drugmaker Aurobindo Pharma's subsidiary Eugia Pharma Specialities has received final approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (U.S. FDA) to manufacture and market cancer drug Lenalidomide Capsules, in different strengths. The approved product is bioequivalent and therapeutically equivalent to the reference listed drug, Revlimid Capsules, of Bristol-Myers Squibb Company. The product is expected to be introduced in October, Aurobindo added.

SBI raises ₹3,717 crore via additional tier 1 bonds

State Bank of India (SBI), said it has raised ₹3,717 crore through third Basel III compliant Additional Tier 1 bond issuance in the current financial year at a coupon rate of 8.25%. The proceeds would be utilised for augmenting Additional Tier 1 Capital and the overall capital base of the bank and strengthening capital adequacy in accordance with RBI guidelines. The tenor of these bonds is perpetual with a call option after 10 years and every anniversary thereafter.

'GQG likely to invest more in Adani'

Founder says firm will probably buy more stake in the conglomerate as holdings 'not at full size' currently; Jain was in Australia for talks with investors including some of the country's largest pension funds following the $1.9 bn investment

Reuters
SYDNEY

GQG Partners would likely expand its investment in the Adani Group, the fund firm's founder Rajiv Jain said on Wednesday, a week after its $1.9 billion infusion into the embattled Indian conglomerate.

"Chances are we'll probably buy more because we typically initiate a position and then depending on how things go and how the earnings come through we tend to get it to full size because we're not at full size at this point," Mr. Jain said on a call with journalists.

GQG Partners, co-founded by Mr. Jain in 2016, bought shares worth $1.87 billion in four Adani Group companies, marking the first major investment in the Indian conglomerate since a short seller's critical report in January sparked a stock rout.

Mr. Jain, based in Florida, flew to Australia this week for talks with investors, which include some of Australia's largest pension funds. Last week, pension fund investor Cbus Super, with A$71 billion ($46.82 billion) under management, told Reuters they had queried GQG about the Adani purchase.

A GQG spokesperson said Mr. Jain's trip had been planned for some time and that discussions included several topics.

"The response actually has been, frankly, more positive than I would have anticipated because they feel that's how we differentiate ourselves," Mr. Jain said, when asked how the clients have responded to the Adani deal.

"We do our deep dive, and we don't follow the herd," he said.

New York-based short seller Hindenburg Research accused the Adani Group in a Jan. 24 report of stock manipulation and improper use of offshore tax havens that it said obscured the extent of Adani family stock ownership in group firms. The group has denied the charges.

The billionaire Gautam Adani-led group said on Tuesday it prepaid share-backed financing of ₹73.74 billion, as it looks to allay fears over leverage and debt sparked by the report.

Mr. Jain said he has not had a conversation with the Adani Group since the transaction.

"There is nothing to talk about," he said.

Bullish bet

U.S.-based investment firm that had acquired stakes totalling $1.87 billion in four Adani Group companies last week is aiming to increase its holdings, says founder

- We typically initiate a position, then depending on how things go... we tend to get it to full size: Jain
- Clients' response to Adani deal has been more positive than anticipated, he says after talks with Australian pension funds
- Jain says has not had talks with Adani after GQG's stake purchase

Investors must link PAN to Aadhaar by March 31: SEBI

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

With the March 31 deadline for mandatory linking of Permanent Account Number (PAN) with Aadhaar approaching, the Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has asked all registered entities, market infrastructure institutions and investors to ensure valid KYC for all participants.

"Since PAN is the key identification number and part of KYC requirements for all transactions in the securities market, all SEBI registered entities and Market Infrastructure Institutions (MIIs) are required to ensure valid KYC for all participants," SEBI said in a statement.

"All existing investors are required to ensure linking of their PAN with Aadhaar number prior to March 31 for continual and smooth transactions in securities market and to avoid consequences of non-compliance with the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) circular, as such accounts would be considered non-KYC compliant, and there could be restrictions on securities and other transactions until the PAN and Aadhaar are linked," SEBI added.

The market regulator said that the provisions of Income-tax Act, 1961, make it mandatory for every person who has been allotted a PAN to intimate his/her Aadhaar Number to the prescribed authority so that the Aadhaar and PAN can be linked. "This is required to be done on or before the notified date, failing which the PAN shall become inoperative."

As per a CBDT circular dated March 30, 2022, the PAN allotted to a person shall become inoperative if it is not linked with Aadhaar by March 31, 2023.

'GDP may grow by less than 7% in FY23'

Press Trust of India
MUMBAI

Pencilling in just 4% GDP growth for the fourth quarter, a rating agency has said the final growth numbers for the full year will be lower than the second advance estimate of 7%.

The economy grew at 13.2% in the first quarter and 6.3% in the second three-month period due to base effect, and much lower than the consensus expectation at 4.4% in the third quarter.

To close the full fiscal with a 7% growth, the GDP should deliver at least a 4.1% uptick.

India Ratings analyst Paras Jasrai in a report wrote the agency expects GDP to print in at about 4% in Q4, which would mean GDP growth for FY23 could be lower than 7% but did not quantify the same.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	WEDNESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	60,348	0.21
US Dollar	81.97	-0.06
Gold	55,095	-1.44
Brent oil	82.55	—

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2039.65	56.75
Adani Ports	712.05	21.30
Apollo Hosp	4376.05	-45.05
Asian Paints	2859.55	-5.00
Axis Bank	860.95	1.45
Bajaj Auto	3811.20	88.15
Bajaj Finserv	1380.80	0.00
Bajaj Finance	5996.85	-138.00
Bharti Airtel	766.55	-0.05
BPCL	326.10	1.55
Britannia Ind	4339.65	19.80
Cipla	877.25	-3.65
Coal India	224.85	-0.05
Divis Lab	2834.50	-12.30
Dr Reddys Lab	4426.25	-12.95
Eicher Motors	3204.40	38.20
Grasim Ind	1601.10	2.55
HCL Tech	1120.65	-6.05
HDFC	2679.45	4.70
HDFC Bank	1630.55	3.25
HDFC Life	495.20	5.05
Hero MotoCorp	2478.05	-1.65
Hindalco	407.75	-6.75
Hind Unilever	2485.10	0.25
ICICI Bank	872.10	4.35
IndusInd Bank	1174.25	53.65
Infosys	1492.70	-14.75
ITC	392.40	4.25
JSW Steel	675.40	1.15
Kotak Bank	1740.20	-10.80
L&T	2170.80	29.65
M&M	1289.95	19.50
Maruti Suzuki	8693.90	62.45
NestleIndia	18518.25	3.40
NTPC	178.85	2.05
ONGC	158.25	0.05
PowerGrid Corp	228.05	0.90
Reliance Ind	2417.35	8.65
SBI Life	1129.20	0.50
State Bank	564.80	3.10
Sun Pharma	957.50	-7.75
TataConsumerProduct	720.50	6.90
Tata Motors	439.30	-0.80
Tata Steel	106.50	0.85
TCS	3390.40	18.55
Tech Mahindra	1078.30	-11.75
Titan	2397.10	-6.35
UltraTech Cement	7267.25	66.65
UPL	716.70	5.65
Wipro	392.60	-1.15

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on March 08

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	81.86	82.18
Euro	86.25	86.59
British Pound	96.90	97.28
Japanese Yen (100)	59.63	59.87
Chinese Yuan	11.75	11.79
Swiss Franc	86.81	87.16
Singapore Dollar	60.45	60.70
Canadian Dollar	59.51	59.75
Malaysian Ringitt	18.07	18.16
Australian Dollar	54.03	54.25

Source:Indian Bank

Board accepts Natco's ₹210-cr. share buyback

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

The board of directors of Natco Pharma has approved a ₹210-crore share-buyback proposal.

The company would buy back up to 30 lakh equity shares, of face value ₹2 each, for a price not exceeding ₹700 per share from the open market.

The maximum buyback price is more than 23% higher compared with Wednesday's closing price of ₹568 on the BSE.

At the maximum buyback price and size, the indicative maximum number of shares to be bought back would be 30 lakh, or 1.64% of the paid-up equity capital, the drugmaker said in a filing.

Promoter and promoter group's stake, in the event of the maximum buyback, will increase from 48.82% to 49.63%, while public shareholding will decline to 50.37% from the present 51.18%, as per a filing.

Future Enterprise enters insolvency

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

After Future Retail, another Kishore Biyani company Future Enterprise has been admitted to insolvency resolution, requiring the firm to be auctioned to recover unpaid dues.

In a regulatory filing, Future Retail said the Mumbai bench of the National Company Law Tribunal on March 7 "ordered the commencement of corporate insolvency resolution process (CIRP)."

With the commencement of CIRP, the management of the company now vest with the resolution professional and the powers of the board of directors stand suspended, the filing said.

The insolvency order was passed on a petition of Foresight Innovations Pvt. Ltd. – a New Delhi-based supplier, which claimed that ₹1.58 crore of payment was defaulted by Future Enterprises.

'We want to build technologies that can enable, improve overall experience'

When it comes to live streaming in India, it's always 'Day 1' for us, says Amazon Prime Video's Tech V-P Winston, assuring that the firm will continue to optimise experience, introduce new features

INTERVIEW

B.A. Winston

Lalatendu Mishra

B.A. Winston

Prime Video is investing in technologies apart from content to grow its presence in India including in rural areas, says its vice president - Technology, B.A. Winston.

How are you growing in India in terms of technology, including investment?

We invest in content, but we believe that unless we invest in technology that can power the content, and to stream to our customers devices, it's not very useful. So, we have a lot of investment in technology and we also want to build technologies that can enable and improve the experience overall, globally.

We always say that when it comes to live streaming and also live streaming here in India, it's Day 1 for us. We will continue to improve and optimise our experience, introduce new features. Our partnership with AWS has been awesome.

We have Amazon advertising, Prime Video and AWS, all working together to ensure that we serve our customers here in India.

What is your rural penetration strategy?

We have dedicated teams who work with network providers across the country to optimise connectivity or build new capacity when needed.

We work towards optimising our video compression formats for different bit rates and bandwidth conditions.

We optimise our algorithms using ML, for different cellular and network conditions to adapt quickly to changing network conditions.

What is your view about the issue of latency when it comes to live streaming? How is it going to be solved?

With latency, we have been experimenting with a totally different network protocol. It is not a new protocol, but it's typically not used in streaming these days; it's called UDP - User Datagram Protocol, and that can provide a way for us to significantly reduce latency while providing high quality streams.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the general public that my client intends to purchase the property detailed in the schedule below from its owners Sri. H.V Gajaraj S/o late H.N.Venkatappa Reddy, SMT. Vasantha Gajaraj W/o H.V Gajaraj, Mr. Raghavendra B.G S/o H.V Gajaraj and Mr. Sandeep R.B. S/o H.V Gajaraj. If any person has any manner of right, title, interest, claim or objection for sale of the schedule property, may forward your objections along with documentary proof to the undersigned, within 14 days from the date of this publication. If no objections are received, my client will proceed to purchase the schedule property and any objections received thereafter, shall not be entertained.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Property bearing No. 949, BBMP PID Khata No. 72-1-949, BBMP ward no.72, situated at HAL II Stage Extension, 12th Main Road, Indiranagar, Bengalaru – 560 038, measuring East to West 50 feet and North to South 80 feet, totally measuring 4000 square feet, with existing building thereon comprising of Ground plus Three upper floors, measuring 10,080 sq.ft. of super built up area and bounded on the:

East by : Site No.950
West by : Site No.948
North by : Site No.943 & 944
South by : Road

Date : 09/03/2023
Place : Bangalore

CHANDRASHEKHAR.C, Advocate
B-107, 'Brigade Majestic' #26, Kavi Kalidasa (1st main) Road, Gandhi Nagar, Bangalore – 560 009. Mob: 9449212739

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, MR. T. K. JACOB s/o Late. Kunjukunju. K. C is the absolute owner of the property described in the Schedule hereunder.

It is brought to the notice of the general public that, our client has negotiated and decided to purchase the Schedule Property from the above said owner. All persons having any claim against or to the Schedule Property or any part thereof by way of inheritance, mortgage, sale, conveyance, MOU, Agreement to Sell, G.P.A, transfer, lease deed, tenancy, license, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, gift, exchange, possession, adverse possession or otherwise howsoever are hereby required to submit the same in writing along with documentary proof to the undersigned at their office as shown below **within 15 days from the date of publication hereof**, failing which our client shall proceed without any reference to such claim and the same, if any, will be considered as waived.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ITEM NO. 1: All that piece and parcel of the **Site No.23, BBMP Khata No. 130/116/23,** measuring **East to West 40 feet** and **North to South 60 feet** in all measuring **2400 Sq. feet** formed in **Sy. No. 21/1 & 25/2**, situated at Basapura Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore Urban Districtand bounded on: **East by :** Property No. 22; **West by :** Property No. 24; **North by :** 30 feet Road; **South by :** Property No. 25.

ITEM NO. 2: All that piece and parcel of the **Site No.24, BBMP Khata No. 131/117/24,** measuring **East to West (30+20)/2 feet** and **North to South 60 feet** in all measuring **1500 Sq. feet** formed in **Sy. No. 21/1 & 25/2**, situated at Basapura Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore Urban Districtand bounded on: **East by :** Property No. 23; **West by :** Basapura Road; **North by :** 30 feet Road; **South by :** Property No. 25.

Dated this 09th day of March 2023 at Bangalore
M/S. LEGAL NEXUS,
ADVOCATES & CONSULTANTS,
No. 428, 24th Main, 25th Cross, Sector – 2, H.S.R Layout, Bangalore – 560 102.
Phone: 080-65555914
Mobile: 9945688974; 9164150690

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, MR. M. ASHOK s/o Late. Munireddy is the absolute owner of the property described in the Schedule hereunder.

It is brought to the notice of the general public that, our client has negotiated and decided to purchase the Schedule Property from the above said owner. All persons having any claim against or to the Schedule Property or any part thereof by way of inheritance, mortgage, sale, conveyance, MOU, Agreement to Sell, G.P.A, transfer, lease deed, tenancy, license, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, gift, exchange, possession, adverse possession or otherwise howsoever are hereby required to submit the same in writing along with documentary proof to the undersigned at their office as shown below **within 15 days from the date of publication hereof**, failing which our client shall proceed without any reference to such claim and the same, if any, will be considered as waived.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the undeveloped converted land bearing **Sy. No. 216/1 (Old Sy. No. 216), BBMP Khata No. 123/216/1,** measuring to an extent of **0-07 Guntas**, situated at Kudlu Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District and bounded on the, East by: Remaining portion in same Sy.No.216/1; **West by:**Land bearing Sy. No. 148; **North by :** Road; **South by:** Land bearing Sy. No. 99 & 100.

Dated this 09th day of March 2023 at Bangalore

M/S. LEGAL NEXUS,
ADVOCATES & CONSULTANTS,
No. 428, 24th Main, 25th Cross, Sector – 2,
H.S.R Layout, Bangalore – 560 102.
Phone: 080-65555914
Mobile: 9945688974; 9164150690

BEFORE THE REAL ESTATE REGULATORY AUTHORITY,
1/4, Ground floor, Silver Jubilee Block, Unity Building, CSI Compound 3rd Cross, Mission Road, Bengaluru - 560027
CMP/200622/0005983

Between:
MRS. MUSHTARI ABID SHERIEF
#415, 18th Main road 35th Cross, 4th T Block Jayanagar, Bengaluru-560041.
COMPLAINANT

And:
M/S.ROMA BUILDERS
House No.185, 1st Cross, A Block AECS Layout, Kundalahalli,Bengaluru Urban, Karnataka - 560037
RESPONDENT / PROMOTER

Summons To Respondent For Appearance

To, M/S. ROMA BUILDERS
House No.185, 1st Cross, A Block AECS Layout, Kundalahalli,Bengaluru Urban, Karnataka - 560037
RESPONDENT

Whereas the Above complaint has got registered with the Authority by the complainant, seeking a refund of **Rs.37,30,000/-** (Thirty-Seven Lakhs Thirty Thousand) with interest paid by the complainant to acquire a three-bedroom apartment of the real estate project undertaken by you in the name and style of "ROMA EPICUREAN"In view of the above, the Authority considers it appropriate to enforce your attendance, in accordance with section 35 (2) (ii) of the Act, on **06/04/2023 at 11:30AM, Full bench** so as to ensure your presence in this case during the above date of hearing and submit your explanations. In the event of your failure to appear for hearing and submit your explanations, it would be considered that you have violated the directions of the Authority and penalty proceedings under section 63 of the Act would be initiated for non-appearance with the summons issued under section 35(2)(ii) of the Act, You are hereby directed to submit your statement of objections, any other written submissions, and documents in support of your contentions on all the matters listed above in the Office of the Authority by **06/04/2023 at 11:30AM** and ensure to serve the copies of the same on the respective complaints.

Given under my hand and seal of the authority this day of **4th March 2023.**

By Orders the Hon'ble Authority
Sd/- & Seal
Registrar
Real Estate Regulatory Authority, Bangalore

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್‌ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ,
ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಕೊಡಗು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಡಿಕೇರಿ

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : 41/2022-23/6904-08 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 07-03-2023

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ 1999 ಹಾಗೂ ನಿಯಮಗಳು 2000 ರಂತೆ ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯೂಮೆಂಟ್ ಕೆ.ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ-4 ರನ್ವಯ ದ್ವಿಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಕೊಡಗು ವಿಭಾಗದ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಲೆ.ಶೀ: 5054-04-337-0-01-154 ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ರಸ್ತೆಗಳು-ಸುಧಾರಣೆಗಳು (ಅಪೆಂಡಿಕ್ಸ್-'ಇ') ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ವಿರಾಜಪೇಟೆ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿನ 3 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಇ-ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣಾ ವೇದಿಕೆ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಿಟ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ರೂ. 178.56 ಲಕ್ಷ ಹಾಗೂ ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ರೂ. 252.18 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 07-03-2023 ರಿಂದ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಇ-ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣಾ ವೇದಿಕೆ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 14-03-2023 ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಯಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಇ-ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣಾ ವೇದಿಕೆ http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಯಾವುದೇ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ/ಮಾರ್ಪಾಡುಗಳನ್ನು ಇ-ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್,
ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಕೊಡಗು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಡಿಕೇರಿ.

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
OFFICE OF THE, Executive Engineer, KNNL, HBC Divn., Athani – 591304, Tq: Athani. Dist: Belgaum (Karnataka).

No./KNNL/HBC/PB/TND/2022-23/ 4477 Date: 06.03.2023

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-procurement only)

Percentage tenders are invited as per KW-4 in Two cover system for below mentioned and System for from eligible tenderers, for the works detailed below by the undersigned.

On behalf of the Managing Director, KNNL, Bengaluru, the Executive Engineer, KNNL, HBC Division Athani, invites percentage basis tender from interested, experienced and resourceful civil contractors from KPWD Class II and Above Contractors who fulfill the pre-qualification criteria for the bellow mentioned work.

The two cover bid submission procedure as per Rule 28 of KTPP Act shall be followed The bidders are requested to submit their bids in two cover system including EMD in e-cash. The first cover (Technical Bid) should contain the documents as mentioned in Para 4, The second cover shall contain the financial bid. The cover-I (Technical bid) will be opened first. Thereafter cover-II (financial bid) of only those bidders who have fulfill the conditions contained in Para.4 will be opened.

The blank tender documents can be obtained through website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in and can be submitted through electronic tender only.

The approximate estimated cost of work is 1) Rs. 423.51 Lakhs 2) Rs. 423.51 Lakhs

1:The contractor can request for e-tendering documents: From 08-03-2023 @ 10.30 AM to 16-03-2023. upto 4.00 PM, 2:Last date & time for tender queries:15.03.2023 upto 4.00 PM, 3:Pre bid meeting will be held in the office of the EE HBC Division Athani: 14.03.2023 at 11.00 AM. 4:Submission of completed e-tendering document:From 08-03-2023 @ 10.30 AM to 16-03-2023. upto 4.00 PM, 5:Opening of Technical Bid at EE KNNL HBC Division Athani: 18.03.2023 @ 11.00 AM, 6:Opening of Financial Bid at EE KNNL HBC Division Athani: 20.03.2023 @ 11.00 AM (Or after Approval of Technical Bid), 7:Date for Producing original document @ EE KNNL HBC Division Athai:19.03.2023 @ 11.00 AM

Any other information can be had from the undersigned during the office hours on telephone: 08289-251034 and H.P company helpline 080-22485867

Sd/-S.G.Srinath,
Executive Engineer, KNNL HBC Division, Athani

DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-1971/KSMCA/2022-23

DIFFERENT ONE

Ahmedabad pitch may not turn as much on day one, says Smith

Australia skipper Steve Smith felt that the pitch in Ahmedabad for the fourth and final Test was likely to be the "flattest on day one." "The pitch certainly looks like it will do less on day one than what we've seen so far," he said. Smith urged his players to put up big totals on what he believed would be a "little different" surface.

UNDER THE KNIFE

Bumrah undergoes back surgery, likely to be out for six months

India pacer Jasprit Bumrah has undergone a successful surgery in Christchurch, New Zealand, and is expected to be out of action for six months. The surgery was conducted by Dr. Rowan Schouten, an orthopaedic surgeon specialising in the management of adult spinal conditions and hip replacement surgery.

TAKING CHARGE

Markram and de Zorzi star for South Africa on opening day

Aiden Markram (96) and Tony de Zorzi (85) helped South Africa finish the opening day at 311 for seven in the second Test in Johannesburg on Wednesday.
The scores: South Africa 311/7 in 89.2 overs (Elgar 42, Markram 96, de Zorzi 85, Motie 3/75) vs. West Indies.

EXEMPLARY

Warne was the most giving and loyal person I've met: Maxwell

Royal Challengers Bangalore all-rounder Glenn Maxwell was effusive in his praise of the late Shane Warne. "He is probably the most giving and loyal person that I've ever met. Generous not just with what he did with charity work but generous with his knowledge and time too," said Maxwell on RCB's Season 2 Podcast.

India needs its batting might to come to life in a high-stakes Test

It's a must-win game for the hosts as they strive to book a World Test Championship final berth while Australia will look to ride the momentum; the surface promises to offer even bounce and is likely to be flat on day one

AUSTRALIA IN INDIA

Shayan Acharya
AHMEDABAD

The Narendra Modi Stadium will sport a festive look when India and Australia square off on Thursday in the fourth and final Test. With the Indian PM Modi and his Australian counterpart Anthony Albanese in attendance, the Test is being promoted as a setting to celebrate the friendship between the two countries over the last 75 years.

Perfect aura

There are posters of the PMs in every corner of the ground; a gold-plated golf cart will give a tour of the ground to the PMs – creating the perfect aura that a high-profile Test match deserves.

As nearly 1,10,000 spectators are expected to be present on the opening day, it will be a challenge for the teams to cut out the noise and focus on the game. The defeat in the third Test in Indore has made this a must-win game for India in a bid to book a World Test Championship final berth.

Seeking consistency: Rohit will look to replicate the form he was in when he scored a century in the first Test of the series. VIJAY SONEJI

In a respite to the batters, the surface promises to offer even bounce – a sharp contrast to the rank-turners that dominated the first three games of the series. Australia's stand-in captain Steve Smith believes that of the surfaces that he has played so far in the series, the one here will potentially be the "flattest on day one".

India's batting would revolve around captain Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli and Cheteshwar Pujara. The home team would be hoping for its star-studded lineup to put on an improved show.

After a century in the series opener, Rohit has failed to convert his starts, with scores of 32, 31, 12 and 12. Kohli has struggled in the series with just 111 runs, despite a promising start a couple of times. It has been more than three years since Kohli scored a century in Tests – against Bangladesh in Kolkata in 2019 – and about 15 Test innings since he scored a half-century. After scores of 7, 0, 31 and 1, Pujara fought back with a gritty 59 in the second innings of the Indore Test as his teammates failed to get going.

With K.S. Bharat likely to get a longer rope, India's only change in the squad could be the return of Mohammed Shami in place of Umesh Yadav. So far in the series, Axar Patel has had a successful campaign with the bat, amassing 185 runs, but at his home ground, the all-rounder will have to chip in with his left-arm spin.

For the touring team, spinners – Nathan Lyon, Todd Murphy and Matthew Kuhnemann – have enjoyed success so far. It needs to be seen whether Australia picks an extra pacer – Scott Boland or Lance Morris – to give the attack a better balance.

The teams (from):

India: Rohit Sharma (Capt.), K.L. Rahul, Shubman Gill, Cheteshwar Pujara, Virat Kohli, Shreyas Iyer, K.S. Bharat, Ishan Kishan, Ravindra Jadeja, R. Ashwin, Axar Patel, Kuldeep Yadav, Mohammed Shami, Mohammed Siraj, Umesh Yadav, Suryakumar Yadav and Jaydev Unadkat.

Australia: Steve Smith (Capt.), Usman Khawaja, Travis Head, Marnus Labuschagne, Peter Handscomb, Cameron Green, Alex Carey, Mitchell Starc, Scott Boland, Nathan Lyon, Matt Kuhnemann, Todd Murphy, Mitchell Swepson, Lance Morris and Matthew Renshaw.

Umpires: Nitin Menon and Richard Kettleborough; **TV umpire:** Joel Wilson; **Reserve umpire:** J. Madanagopal; **Match referee:** Chris Broad.

Match starts at 9.30 a.m.

It's about being ruthless, not overconfident: Rohit

Shayan Acharya
AHMEDABAD

Skipper's word: Bharat will not be judged by a couple of poor shows with the bat, assured Rohit. VIJAY SONEJI

Ravi Shastri did not mince words after India suffered a nine-wicket defeat in the third Test against Australia in Indore last week. "This is what a little complacency, a little bit of overconfidence can do when you take things for granted, you drop your guard, and this game will bring you down," Shastri had said during his commentary stint.

On the eve of the fourth and final Test, India captain Rohit Sharma rubbished talks of complacency creeping in.

"When you win two games, if the people outside feel that we are overconfident, it's absolutely rubbish. You want to do your best in all four games, you don't want to stop after just winning two games. It's as simple as that," Rohit said on Wednesday.

"Ruthless is the word that comes to my mind and every cricketer's mind, and not to give an inch to the opposition when they are touring. That's exactly what we have experienced when we have toured," he said.

"The opposition will never let you come into the game or series, and that's the mindset we have as well. We want to do our best in all the games. If it seems over-confidence or anything like that for outsiders, it doesn't matter to us," said Rohit. "Ravi himself has been in this dressing room, and he knows what mindset we have."

About how he approaches an innings, Rohit said: "You need to adapt to your strength. Your strength will be different than others. So, I stick to my plan."

Longer rope for Bharat

The India captain also stressed that youngsters like K.S. Bharat would be given a longer rope and won't be judged based on a couple of poor shows with the bat. Bharat has scored only 57 runs in five innings in this series.

"Bharat has played a lot of domestic cricket and scored a lot of runs. It would be slightly unfair to judge him on these kinds of pitches. You got to give him enough room to set himself up for a big score, especially when someone is making his debut," he said.

Rohit revealed that he had had a word with Ishan Kishan as well. "When he gets his chance, he will get the number of games. We will not drop him after playing just two Test matches. It will be unfair, and that's what we are trying to do with Bharat," Rohit said.

After Dunkley and Harleen power the Giants past 200, the bowlers deliver maiden win

WPL

P.K. Ajith Kumar
MUMBAI

Lady Luck hasn't smiled much on Gujarat Giants.

In its first match, it lost its captain and best batter Beth Mooney to injury. In the second, after coming so close to a win, it lost to a stunning onslaught at the death by UP Warriorz's Grace Harris.

On a warm Wednesday night at the Brabourne Stadium, Giants, riding on sparkling 60s from Sophia Dunkley and Harleen Deol, finally tasted victory in the Women's Premier League. Chasing 202, RCB could only manage 190 for six.

Third loss

The 11-run defeat meant that the star-studded RCB is the only team in the competition without a win even after three games.

Though captain Smriti Mandhana and Sophie Devine gave yet another promising start to RCB – they put on 54 in 5.1 overs – the innings didn't get the acceleration it required. The first six of the innings came only after 14 overs.

That came from the blade of Devine, who made 66 off 45 balls (8x4, 2x6). After Smriti fell once more to the off-spin of Ashleigh Gardner, the New Zealander added 43 for the second wicket with Ellyse Perry (32, 25b, 5x4).

Dunkley's day out: The Giants opener reached her half-century off just 18 balls, the fastest in the WPL so far. PTI

Gardner then yorked the dangerous Richa Ghosh off the first ball after the strategic time-out. It was going to be an uphill task from then on, notwithstanding a brave attempt from Heather Knight (30 not out, 11b, 5x4, 1x6).

Earlier, what Dunkley (65, 28b, 11x4, 3x6) started was finished off by Harleen (67, 45b, 9x4, 1x6). Dunkley indicated that she was a woman in a hurry as she scooped the third ball she faced – from Perry – to fine-leg for a boundary.

She went on to hit the bowlers all around the park, displaying nimble footwork and superb timing. Her fifty came off just 18 balls – the fastest in the league so far.

Then Harleen put her wrists to work, stitching together useful stands and powering Giants to what proved a winning total.

Thursday's match: Delhi Capitals vs Mumbai Indians, 7.30 p.m.

SCOREBOARD

GUJARAT GIANTS

S. Meghana c Richa b Schutt 8 *(11b, 2x4)*, Sophia Dunkley c Knight b Shreyanka 65 *(28b, 11x4, 3x6)*, Harleen Deol b Shreyanka 67 *(45b, 9x4, 1x6)*, Ashleigh Gardner st. Richa b Knight 19 *(15b, 2x4)*, D. Hemalatha c Renuka b Knight 16 *(7b, 2x4, 1x6)*, Annabel Sutherland c Knight b Renuka 14 *(8b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Sneh Rana run out 2 *(3b)*, Kim Garth (not out) 3 *(2b)*, Sushma Verma (not out) 5 *(2b, 1x4)*; Extras (nb-1, w-1): 2; Total (for seven wkts. in 20 overs): 201.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-22 (Meghana, 2.6 overs), 2-82 (Dunkley, 7.6), 3-135 (Gardner, 13.5), 4-157 (Hemalatha, 15.3), 5-187 (Sutherland, 18.1), 6-192 (Sneh, 18.6), 7-196 (Harleen, 19.4).

RCB BOWLING

Schutt 3-1-26-1, Perry 4-0-43-0, Renuka 4-0-36-1, Preeti 3-0-47-0, Shreyanka 4-0-32-2, Knight 2-0-17-2.

ROYAL CHALLENGERS

Smriti Mandhana c Mansi b Gardner 18 *(14b, 3x4)*, Sophie Devine c Gardner b Sutherland 66 *(45b, 8x4, 2x6)*, Ellyse Perry c Hemalatha b Mansi 32 *(25b, 5x4)*, Richa Ghosh b Gardner 10 *(10b, 2x4)*, Heather Knight (not out) 30 *(11b, 5x4, 1x6)*, Kanika Ahuja st. Sushma b Gardner 10 *(7b, 2x4)*, Poonam Khemnar c sub (Ashwani) b Sutherland 2 *(4b)*, Shreyanka Patil (not out) 11 *(4b, 1x4, 1x6)*; Extras (lb-5, w-6): 11; Total (for six wkts. in 20 overs): 190.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-54 (Smriti, 5.2), 2-97 (Perry, 11.5), 3-125 (Richa, 15.1), 4-141 (Devine, 16.2), 5-169 (Kanika, 18.1), 6-178 (Poonam, 19.1).

GUJARAT GIANTS BOWLING

Garth 3-0-27-0, Tanuja 4-0-28-0, Gardner 4-0-31-3, Sutherland 4-0-56-2, Sneh 4-0-34-0, Mansi 1-0-9-1.

Toss: Giants; **PoM:** Dunkley.

Saika Ishaque living her late father's dream

P.K. Ajith Kumar
MUMBAI

It was with boys that Saika Ishaque started playing cricket. That is not unusual at all for female cricketers, around the world. What is unusual is that the boys she played with, at an academy in Kolkata, thought that she was a boy.

"I had short hair and looked quite like a boy; I was about nine then," a smiling Saika said during an interview with *The Hindu* on Wednesday. "When those boys found out that I was a girl, I felt embarrassed. They stopped talking to me."

She is now the talk of the town. With six wickets from two matches in the WPL, she became an early owner of the purple cap.

The left-arm spinner took four wickets on her Mumbai Indians debut, against Gujarat Giants, and then another two against Royal Challengers Bangalore. It should have been a dream start to any uncapped player.

"But I am not living my dream, I am living my father's dream," Saika says. "He used to take me along to watch Mohammedan Sporting's football matches, but wanted me to play cricket. One of his friends – I think his name was Babloo – took me to that boys' academy and later to another, where Jhulan Goswami trained."

Roaring start: Saika scalped four wickets on her WPL debut for Mumbai Indians. SPORTZPICS/WPL

Saika lost her father when she was very young. "He would have been really happy to see me playing at the WPL," says the 27-year-old. "After his death, I was determined that I would become a cricketer."

She is glad that she has been picked by Mumbai Indians. "MI has been my favourite IPL team and I am a fan of Suryakumar Yadav," she says. "It is great playing alongside Harmanpreet Kaur, who is such a fine captain. Coach Charlotte Edwards has given me a lot of confidence."

Edwards told her on the morning of the match against Giants that she was in the eleven. "I was nervous, yes," says Saika. "But I told myself: you have to bowl just one ball at a time."

That strategy seems to be working for Saika.

INBRIEF

Lakshya loses to Popov; Indian challenge ends

Lakshya Sen made a shock opening round exit from the German Open badminton tournament after a 19-21, 16-21 defeat to France's Christo Popov at Mulheim (Germany) on Wednesday. Mithun Manjunath lost to fourth seed Loh Kean Yew of Singapore 8-21, 21-19, 11-21. In women's singles, Malvika Bansod suffered a 13-21, 14-21 defeat against fifth seed and World No. 6 Wang Zhi Yi of China while Tasnim Mir lost to eighth seed Pornpawee Chochuwong of Thailand 8-21, 10-21. The mixed doubles pair of B. Sumeeth Reddy and Ashwini Ponnappa lost its first round match to the Scottish duo of Adam Hall and Julie Macpherson 10-21, 12-21.

WA to have 40% female representation in Council

World Athletics on Wednesday pledged to have 40% female representation in its Council, the all-powerful decision making body, and a woman vice president this year in a significant step towards gender equity in the sport.

Ashwin joint top Test bowler with Anderson

Off-spinner R. Ashwin lost six rating points but still remained joint number one Test bowler with James Anderson in the ICC rankings released on Wednesday.

Rutuja bounces back to stun Grammatikopoulou

Unseeded Indian Rutuja Bhosale upset second seed Valentini Grammatikopoulou 4-6, 6-4, 6-0 in the singles opening round of the KPB Trust ITF Women's Open at the KSLTA Stadium in Bengaluru on Wednesday. Rutuja lost the first after being up 3-0, but fought back impressively to overcome Greece's Grammatikopoulou (World No. 198). Another Indian Zeel Desai, who had won her second ITF women's tour title last month, also made a bright beginning with a facile 6-3, 6-2 victory against German qualifier Rebecca Sarah Sekulic. India's top-ranked player Ankita Raina started her campaign with a 6-3, 6-0 win over compatriot Vanshita Pathania. Vaidehi Chaudhari, who had two excellent outings in the qualifiers, went down to sixth seeded Indonesian Madelyn Nugroho 2-6, 1-6. Sahaja Yamalapalli, another Indian wildcard entrant, suffered a 6-7(8), 3-6 defeat against Lativa's Diana Marcinkevica.

Kabir ousts Prajwal in Iran tournament

Qualifier Kabir Hans defeated sixth seed S.D. Prajwal Dev 6-4, 6-4 in the first round of the $15,000 ITF men's tennis tournament in Kish Island, Iran, on Wednesday.

The results: $15,000 ITF men, Kish Island, Iran: Singles (first round): Kabir Hans bt SD Prajwal Dev 6-4, 6-4; Ishaque Eqbal bt Kiyan Kasemi (Ger) 6-1, 6-1.
$15,000 ITF, Monastir, Tunisia: Men: Singles (first round): Dominik Boehler (Ger) bt Karan Singh 7-5, 6-3.
Women: Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Jennifer Luikham & Wang Jiaqi (Chn) bt Valeria Koussenkova (Esp) & Svetlana Samardzic (Ger) 6-1, 6-2.
$25,000 ITF women, Pretoria, South Africa: Singles (first round): Manon Leonard (Fra) bt Ashmitha Easwaramurthi 6-0, 6-2.
Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Ashmitha & Kira Pavlova bt Tyra Panaino & Suzanie Pretorius (RSA) 6-1, 6-2.

LIVE TELECAST

India vs Australia: 4th Test, day 1, Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 9.30 a.m.
South Africa vs West Indies: 2nd Test, day 2, FanCode, 1.30 p.m.
Bangladesh vs England: 1st T20I, FanCode, 2.30 p.m.
WPL: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 7.30 p.m.
ISL: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 p.m.
Europa League: Sony Sports Ten 1, 2, 3 (SD & HD) & LIV, 11.15 p.m.; Sony Sports Ten 1, 2, 3, 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 1.30 a.m. (Friday)
New Zealand vs Sri Lanka: 1st Test, day 2, Prime Video, 3.30 a.m. (Friday)

Chelsea and Benfica seal quarterfinal berths

The English side overturns a deficit to best Borussia Dortmund 2-0 on the night, while the Lisbon-based club thrashes a shell-shocked Club Brugge 5-1

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Taking aim: Sterling lines up to fire in Chelsea's first goal. REUTERS

Reuters
LONDON

A first-half goal from Raheem Sterling and a controversial penalty by Kai Havertz overturned a first-leg deficit on Tuesday and propelled Chelsea into the Champions League quarterfinals with a 2-1 aggregate win over Borussia Dortmund.

Just as it had in Germany three weeks ago when Dortmund won 1-0, 2021 champion Chelsea squandered chance after chance in the first half, with Germany's Havertz hitting the post.

But in the 43rd minute Ben Chilwell crossed into the box and found England team mate Raheem Sterling.

Sterling airkicked his first effort, then sidestepped Marco Reus and sent his second high into the net to put the teams level on aggregate.

Early in the second half a Chilwell cross smacked into the outstretched hand of defender Marius Wolf and Dutch referee Danny Makkelie gave the penalty after being called to the VAR screen.

VAR comes into play

Havertz hit the keeper's left hand post and play resumed for a few seconds until VAR alerted Makkelie that Dortmund players had encroached into the area. Havertz retook the kick and sent the ball the same way but this time it squeezed inside the post for a 53rd-minute strike.

Meanwhile in Lisbon, a clinical Benfica thrashed shell-shocked Club Brugge 5-1 and reach the last eight 7-1 on aggregate at the Estadio da Luz.

Benfica took the lead in the 38th minute through Rafa Silva who dribbled past two defenders and fired a left foot strike into the net after a counter-attack started by Goncalo Ramos.

Ramos then scored either side of the break before Joao Mario extended the lead with a penalty in the 71st minute.

Substitute David Neres grabbed the fifth six minutes later before Bjorn Meijer got a consolation Brugge in the 87th

The results (last 16, second leg): Benfica 5 (R. Silva 38, Ramos 45+2, 57, Joao Mario 71-pen, Neres 77) bt Club Brugge 1 (Meijer 87). *Benfica wins 7-1 on aggregate.*
Chelsea 2 (Sterling 43, Havertz 53-pen) bt Borussia Dortmund 0. *Chelsea wins 2-1 on aggregate.*

Ganemat and Mairaj miss medal round

SHOOTING

Sports Bureau

Ganemat Sekhon and Mairaj Ahmad Khan shot 143 and missed the chance to fight for a medal by one point in mixed skeet team event in the shotgun World Cup in Doha on Wednesday.

The other Indian pair of Maheshwari Chauhan and Anantjeet Singh Naruka shot 141 for the 12th place among 32 teams.

The results:

Skeet Mixed team: 1. USA (Kimberly Rhode, Vincent Hancock) 6 (148); 2. France (Lucie Anastassiou, Eric Delaunay) 0 (148); 3. Italy (Diana Bacosi, Luigi Lodde) 6 (146).

4. Chile (Francisca Chadid, Hector Barahona) 2 (144); 5. India (Ganemat Sekhon, Mairaj Ahmad Khan) 143./

12. India-2 (Maheshwari Chauhan, Anantjeet Singh Naruka) 141.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Champion: The victorious PSPB hockey team. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

PSPB triumphs

Petroleum Sports Promotion Board beat Railway Sports Promotion Board 3-1 in the shoot-out to win the Hockey India senior men inter-department National Championship here. At the end of regulation time, the match was tied at 2-2, necessitating the shoot-out.

The results: Final: Petroleum Sports Promotion Board bt Railway Sports Promotion Board 2-2 [3-1 after shoot-out];
third-place match: Services Sports Control Board bt Central Industrial Security Force 7-2.

Anand excels in Bowlers CC's big win

J.S. Anand's all-round performance (61 & 4/38) was instrumental in Bowlers CC's thumping 130-run win over City Cricketers (2) in the KSCA (Group I) fifth division league.

The scores: Bowlers CC 264/9 in 50 overs (Prashanth Srinivasa 34, Roshan Kumar 32, Bharath V. Murthy 64, J.S. Anand 61, Varun Ramesh 4/54, L.K. Viswanath 3/42) bt City Cricketers (2) 134 in 28.2 overs (Trilok S. Patravalli 41, Akash P. Maiya 35, J.S. Anand 4/38, Narasimha Yenumula 3/22). Hosakote CC 90 in 22 overs (Sreeram Sreedharan 3/19, Abhishek Saini 3/16, Himanshu Singh 4/22) lost to Rajajinagar Colts CA 91 for no loss in 12.3 overs (Rajeev Bhaskar 66 n.o.). United Cricketers 170 in 49 overs (Rajendra Kumar 26, Suraj S. Mandlur 35, M. Rajesh 3/28, D. Lalith 3/27) lost to Seshadripuram PU College 174/3 in 21.5 overs (L. Jagadish 76, M. Supreeth 47 n.o.).

Huttons CC 145 in 38.3 overs (P. Mahesh Kumar 40, R. Pranesh 3/34, Raja Shankar 4/26) lost to Canarese CC 146/6 in 27.3 overs (M. Shivanayaka 60, Huzaifa M. Bagi 3/37).

Tilak Memorial holds Income Tax

Anuray Srikanth's 79th minute equaliser earned Tilak Memorial FC a 2-2 draw against Income Tax FC in the BDFA A-division league on Wednesday.

The results: Income Tax FC 2 (M. Aravoli 44, Anthony Viceky 75) drew with Tilak Memorial FC 2 (Siddhesh Sunder 62, Anuray Srikanth 79); HAL FC 1 (Sujal Munda 46) bt Blitz FC 0; Parikrma FC 2 (R. Neil Joseph 44, Haris Rahman 78) bt Sree Gajanana FC 0.

HFC meets ATK MB in the first leg of second semifinal

ISL-9

V. V. Subrahmanyam
HYDERABAD

Task cut out: HFC's Siverio, left, during a training session on the eve of the first-leg semifinal in Hyderabad. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Hyderabad FC's quest to win the championship for the second time enters the decisive phase when it takes on the formidable ATK Mohun Bagan in the first-leg semifinal of the Hero ISL football championship at the GMC Balayogi Stadium here on Thursday night.

HFC, the defending champion, which finished second in the points table to make it to the last four stage for the second consecutive season.

Juan Ferrando's in-form ATK MB finished third, but eight points behind Hyderabad, in the league table but importantly won the last three games.

The likes of Dimitri Petratos, Hugo Boumous, Manvir Singh, Ashique Kuruniyan and Liston Colaco have been brilliant on their day and will be the danger men for the home team.

"This will be yet another close game. ATK MB are one of the strongest sides in the competition. We were clinical in the playoffs last season and were able to beat a side that were really good in both legs" HFC head coach Manolo Marquez said in the pre-match briefing.

"Now, they have a good momentum, better than when they came here in the league stage a month ago. They also have a few players coming back from injury and have a really strong squad.

"But, we have a really good team too and we will be hard to beat if we put in a strong performance," Marquez said.

For HFC, the focus inevitably shifts to the likes of Bartholomew Ogbeche, the top goalscorer for the club, along with Javi Siverio, Joel Chianese, Borja Herrera, Mohammad Yasir and Halicharan Narzary who have all been superb upfront this season.

Clearly, defence, so effectively manned by the spirited Gurmeet Singh under the bar, has been HFC's strength in its campaign. Not surprisingly, Marquez revealed that his side is relishing this chance to defend the trophy.

HFC can look to the fact that it had beaten ATK MB in both the league games to enter the field with a lot of confidence.

Brenda Fruhvirtova — navigating business and WTA Tour's age-restriction rules like a seasoned professional

TENNIS

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

Powerful: Fifteen-year-old Brenda Fruhvirtova has made a remarkable start to her professional career. K. MURALI KUMAR

Brenda Fruhvirtova is all of 15, but on court, she handles business like a seasoned professional. In the round-of-32 of the KPB Trust ITF Women's Open at the KSLTA Stadium here on Wednesday, Brenda was ruthless in a 6-1, 6-0 win over Lee Ya-hsuan.

A strong baseliner, Brenda's powerful groundstrokes flattened Ya-hsuan. The Czech Republic teenager has made a remarkable start to her professional career. Earlier this year, Brenda became the fifth youngest player to qualify for the Australian Open women's singles main draw. This monumental achievement came on the back of a stellar 2022, when Brenda won eight ITF singles titles.

Brenda is the younger sister of Linda Fruhvirtova, the 2022 WTA Chennai Open champion.

Age restrictions

In an ideal world, Brenda would have liked to travel and compete in tournaments alongside Linda, but the WTA Tour's age restriction makes it difficult to do so.

The rules state that 15-year-olds can only play up to 10 professional events, and an additional four events based on performance. This is in fact Brenda's first tournament appearance since her first-round exit at the Australian Open almost two months ago.

The restrictions, which in effect bars players from playing the full schedule until they are 18, were put in place to prevent early burnout.

Tricky scheduling

In the case of the Fruhvirtova sisters, this makes for tricky tournament scheduling. The family, which includes mother Martina and father Hynek, does not spend much time together. Hynek travels with Linda (World No. 53), while Martina accompanies Brenda (World No. 163) to tournaments.

"It is difficult to plan the tournament schedule. In order to stay high in the ranking, you must plan smart. There is big pressure on the whole family, as we cannot travel together for the same tournaments. The goal is for Brenda to stay close to Linda in the rankings, so that they can at least sometimes travel together for tournaments," Martina told *The Hindu* here on Wednesday.

High pressure

The pressure is on Brenda to perform well every time she steps on court. Brenda, the top-seed here, relied on sister Linda to give her a few tips on how to succeed in India.

"I spoke to Linda before coming here. But Chennai is different to Bengaluru. Chennai is humid, while Bengaluru is hot and dry. It's good to be here and get the first round win under my belt," Brenda said.